

"A near perfect re-creation of the character we've loved for years."

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BLACK PANTHER

NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR

**TA-NEHISI
COATES**

SPROUSE

STORY

MARTIN



A NATION UNDER OUR FEET BOOK TWO

MARVEL

WILLIAM T. WATSON

BLACK PANTHER



THE BLACK PANTHER

**A NATION
UNDER OUR FEET**
BOOK TWO

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COATES ● SPROUSE ● STORY ● MARTIN

BLACK PANTHER[®]

#5



MARVEL

WILLIAM S. HARRIS

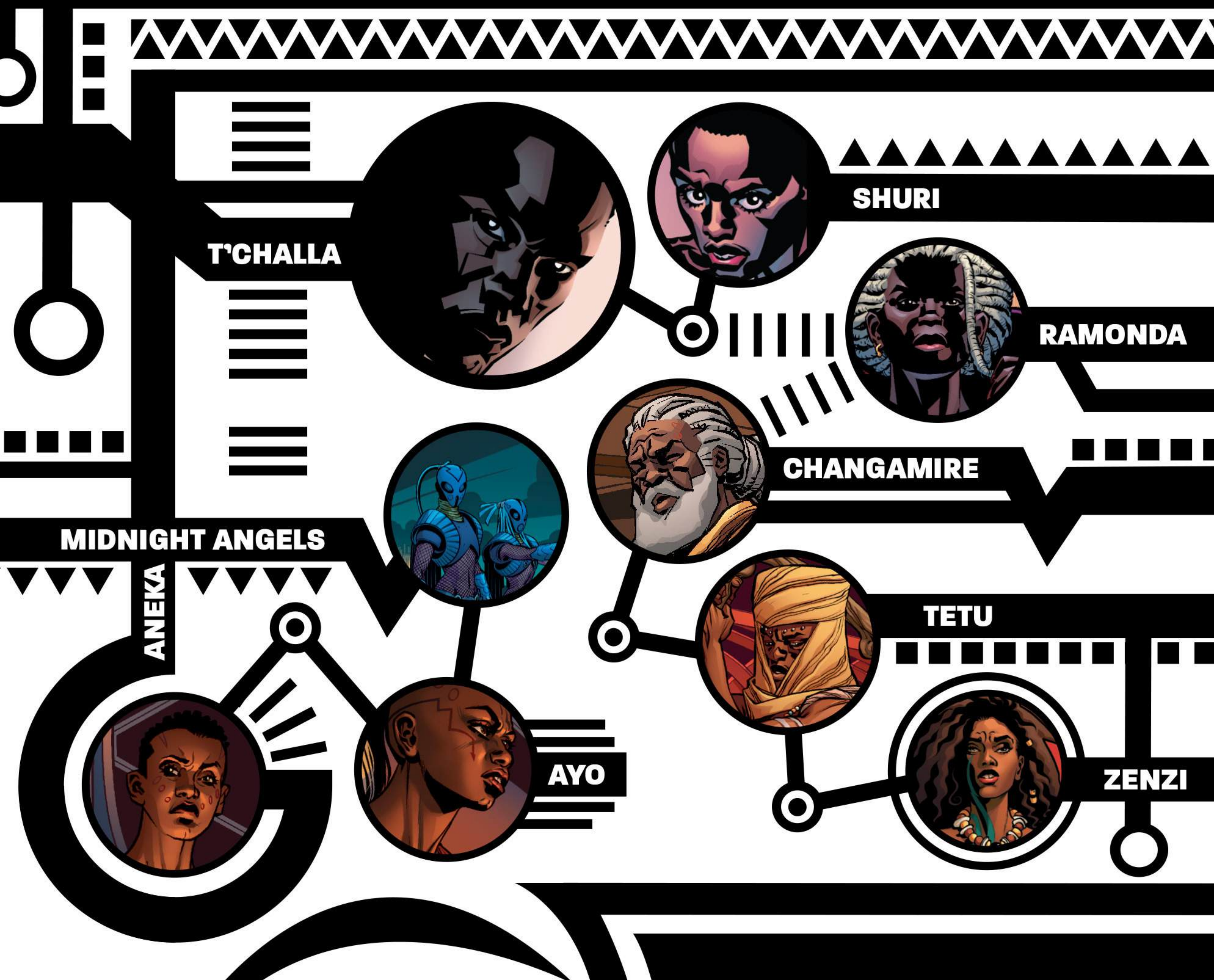
BLACK PANTHER

TETU AND **ZENZI**, LEADERS OF THE INSURGENT GROUP KNOWN AS **THE PEOPLE**, HAVE STOKED THE GROWING FEELINGS OF DISSENT AMONG THE CITIZENS OF WAKANDA. THEY COURTED THE ASSISTANCE OF FORMER DORA MILAJE **AYO** AND **ANEKA**, NOW KNOWN AS **THE MIDNIGHT ANGELS**, TO SUPPORT THEIR REBELLION.

AFTER AYO AND ANEKA DECLINED, TETU TURNED TO **EZEKIEL STANE**, WEAPONER AND BIOTECHNOLOGY EXPERT, TO RAISE THE STAKES OF THEIR WAR: REPULSOR-TECH SUICIDE BOMBERS ATTACKED A CITY SQUARE, KILLING MANY INNOCENTS AND SEVERELY INJURING QUEEN-MOTHER **RAMONDA**.

THE SITUATION NOW HAS KING **T'CHALLA'S** FULL ATTENTION, AS HE PUTS ASIDE A VERY PERSONAL PROJECT: REVIVING HIS SISTER **SHURI** FROM LIVING DEATH. UNBEKNOWNST TO HIM, SHURI'S MIND TRAVELS THE DJALIA, A PLANE OF WAKANDA'S COLLECTIVE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. SHE IS GUIDED BY A GRIOT SPIRIT WHO HAS TAKEN THE VISUAL FORM OF RAMONDA.

Discover more about the Black Panther and Wakanda with the BLACK PANTHER: A NATION UNDER OUR FEET spotlight videos at marvel.com/PantherNation



TAIFA NGAO,
BIRNIN ZANA

I HAVE BROUGHT
YOU INTO A DIVIDED
HOME, AND FOR THAT I
APOLOGIZE. TO POSITION
A GUEST BETWEEN THE
HARRIED FATHER AND
THE WAYWARD CHILD
IS NOT THE
WAKANDAN WAY.

MAY WHAT
WE DO HERE
TODAY OFFER
SOME REDEMPTION
IN THE EYES OF
THOSE WHO CAME
BEFORE AND
THOSE WHO
WILL COME
AFTER.

IT IS AS WE
HAVE DISCUSSED--
MY *SOUL-STALKER* POWER
IS NOW FASTENED TO YOU.
I AM THE SCOPE. YOU
ARE THE RIFLE.

ARE
YOU READY,
EDEN?

YES. WHEN
DO WE
BEGIN?

NOW.

Gilgil

NA WARE



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penciler **CHRIS SPROUSE**

color artist **LAURA MARTIN**

inker **KARL STORY**

A NATION UNDER OUR FEET

part **5**

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**BLACK
PANTHER**
created by
**STAN LEE &
JACK KIRBY**

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ALKAMA FIELDS,
HIDEOUT FOR THE PEOPLE

I AM THE
PANTHER-KING...



...WHO STALKS
THE SOUL...



...ACROSS
OCEAN, DESERT,
AND PLAIN.



I DRINK IN THE
MALICE OF
BLINKERED MEN...



...AND BREAK
THEM UNDER
MY REIGN.

ARRRRGHHH!





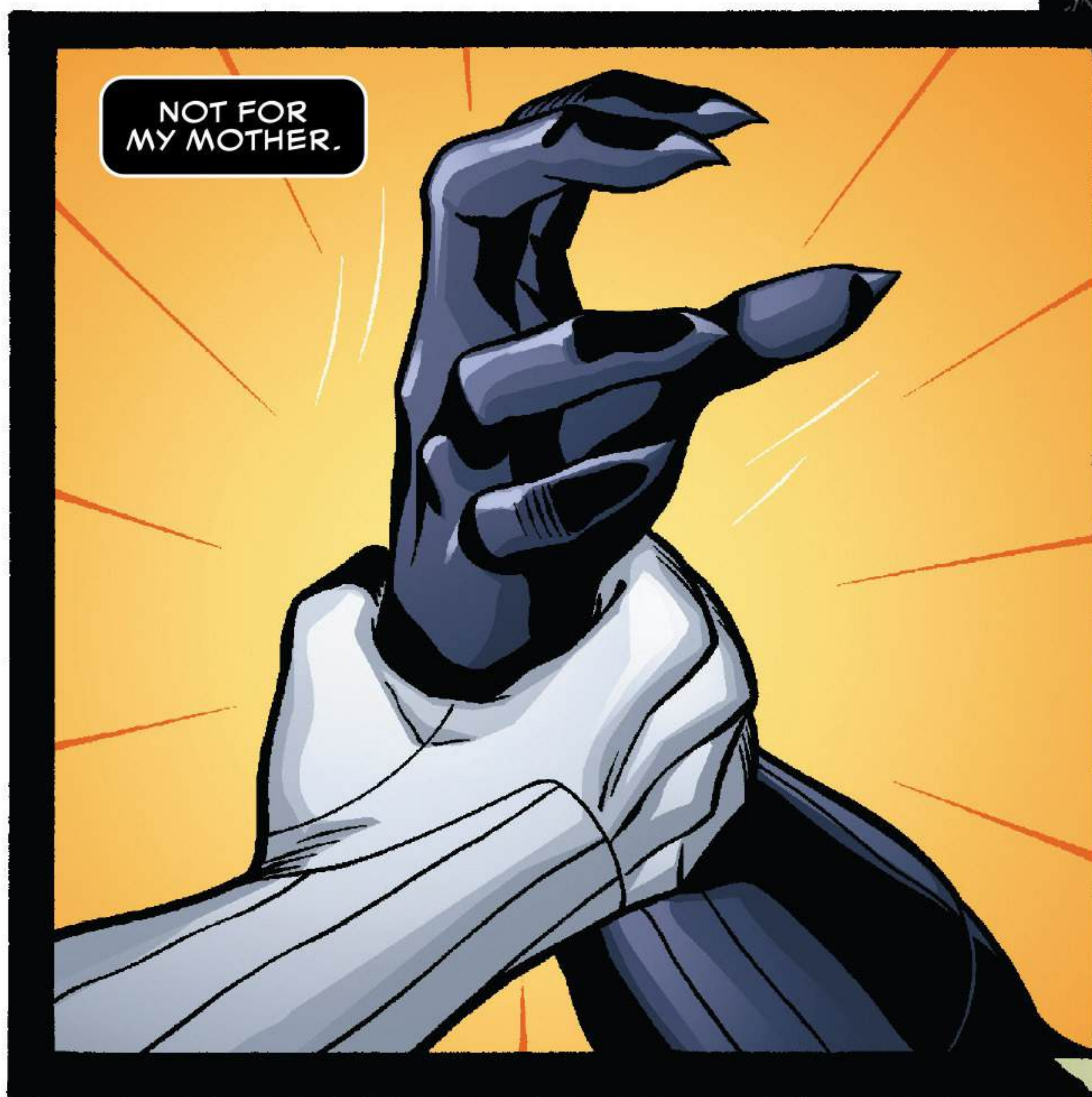
I AM DAMISA-SARKI,
AND THERE IS NO
ESCAPE.



NOT FOR MY
ENEMIES.



NOT FOR
MY PEOPLE.



NOT FOR
MY MOTHER.



NOT FOR
ME.



SO MUCH RAGE.
SO MUCH HATE.
SO MUCH SHAME. I
MUST MASTER ALL
OF IT. I MUST NOT
LET IT MASTER ME.



I HAVE EARNED
THE TRUST OF
GOOD MEN...

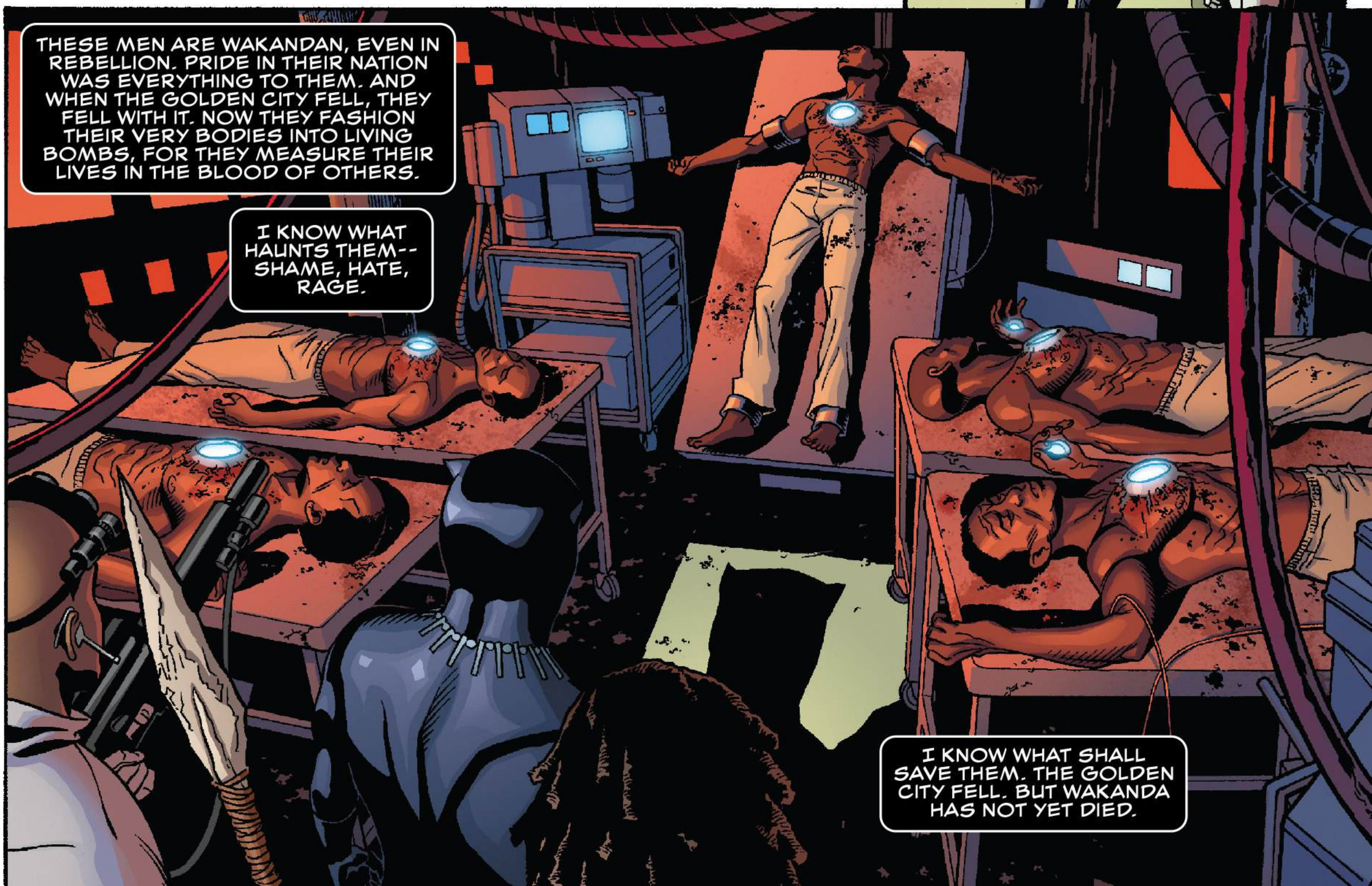
EDEN FESI
THE FORMER
AVENGER KNOWN
AS MANIFOLD



EDEN IS BRAVER THAN HE
KNOWS. ONCE, HE DIED
SO THAT THE WORLD MIGHT
LIVE. PERHAPS SOMEDAY
I SHALL TELL HIM THIS.



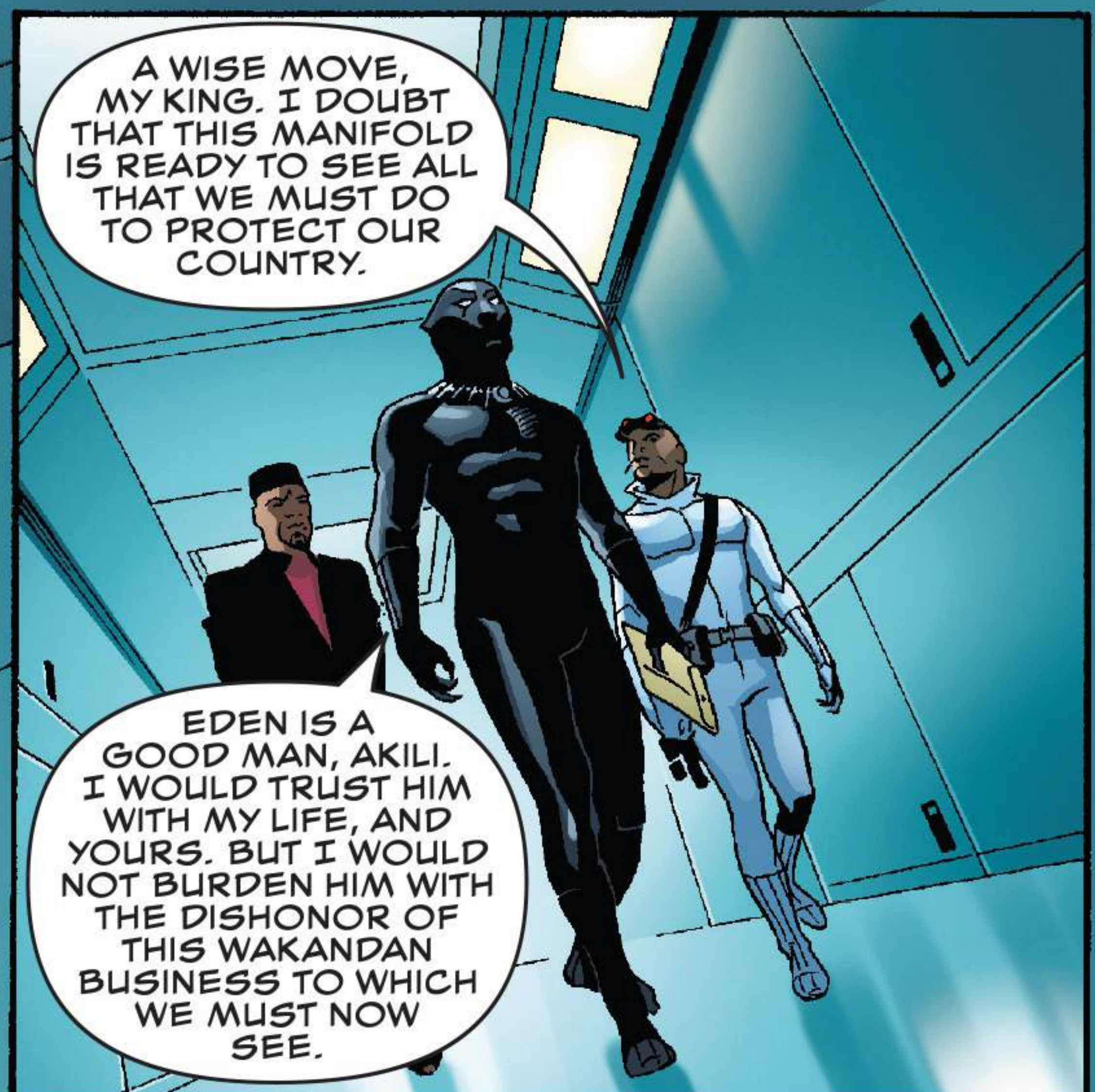
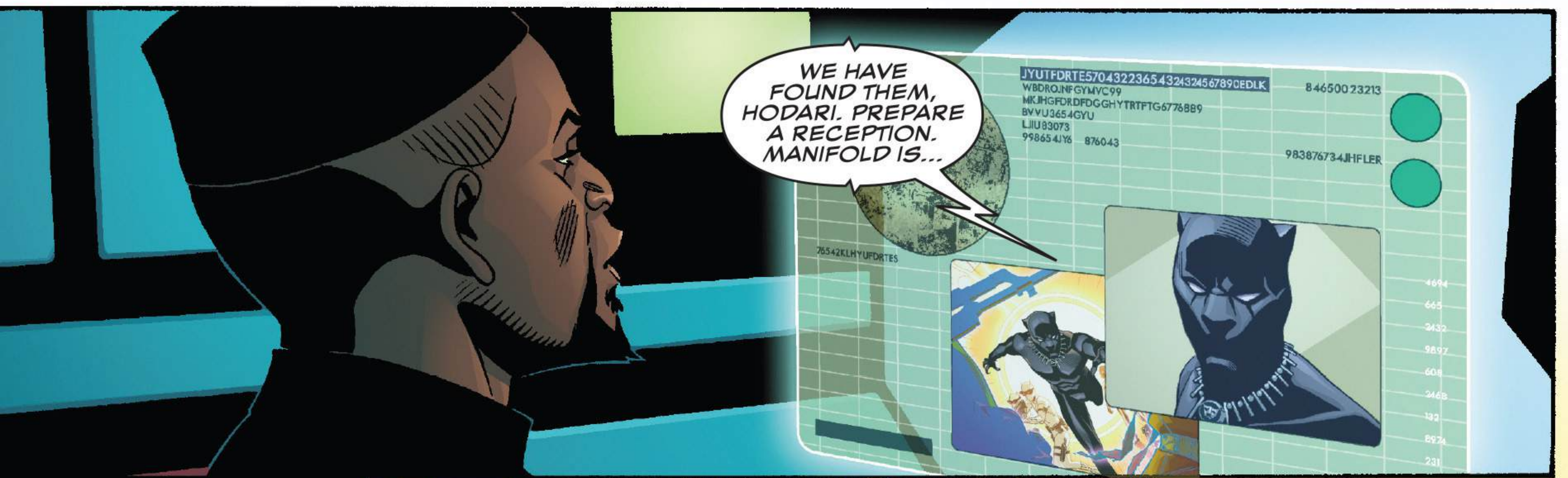
FOR NOW, MY
CONCERNS
ARE MORE
IMMEDIATE.



THESE MEN ARE WAKANDAN, EVEN IN
REBELLION. PRIDE IN THEIR NATION
WAS EVERYTHING TO THEM. AND
WHEN THE GOLDEN CITY FELL, THEY
FELL WITH IT. NOW THEY FASHION
THEIR VERY BODIES INTO LIVING
BOMBS, FOR THEY MEASURE THEIR
LIVES IN THE BLOOD OF OTHERS.

I KNOW WHAT
HAUNTS THEM--
SHAME, HATE,
RAGE.

I KNOW WHAT SHALL
SAVE THEM. THE GOLDEN
CITY FELL. BUT WAKANDA
HAS NOT YET DIED.



I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT I AM IN NEED OF A DIFFERENT KIND OF COUNCIL.

TAKEN TOGETHER, YOU ARE THE MOST SUCCESSFUL COLLECTION OF COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY MINDS ON THE PLANET. YOU HAVE WISDOM. WE HAVE CAPITAL. LET US BEGIN AN EXCHANGE.

ALEXIE SABLINOVA
INTERNAL DEFENSE,
SYMKARIA

SISOWATHA HIENG
STATE SECURITY,
MADRIPOOR

KARL VON BAER
SECRET POLICE,
ALBERIA

JORICK KROAWL
INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTORATE,
GENOSHA

ALEJANDRO DE JESUS
PUBLIC SAFETY,
SANTO MARCO

ALEJANDRO DE JESUS' ACTIONS HAVE KEPT THE NATION OF SANTO MARCO ENSLAVED FOR A QUARTER CENTURY. AT HIS URGING, MEN ARE BROKEN. WOMEN, DISAPPEARED. VILLAGES, ERASED.

ALTHOUGH WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THAT EXPLAINED BY YOUR MASTER, YES?

BUT ALEJANDRO IS WEAK. HE BIDS ME TO SPEAK, NOT OUT OF MANNERS, BUT BECAUSE HE YEARNS FOR MY RESPECT. HE NEEDS ME TO SANCTIFY THAT WHICH HE DOES IN THE DARK.

OR IS "KING" T'CHALLA TOO HIGHBORN TO ADDRESS US?

OTHERS ARE MORE SURE-FOOTED.

I DO NOT CARE WHAT THE KING, OR ANYONE ELSE, MAKES OF US. I WAS NOT HIRED FOR MY TABLE MANNERS.

AGREED. AS LONG AS THIS "CAPITAL" IS BACKED BY VIBRANIUM, I AM AT YOUR SERVICE.

OUR MONEY IS AS GOOD AS IT EVER WAS. NOW, CEASE THIS PRATTLE. IF YOU HAVE INSIGHT, THEN GIVE IT.

SOME PART OF WEAKNESS IS ALWAYS SITUATIONAL.

ALEXIE SABLIANOVA SERVES SYMKARIA. HE TOO HOLDS A COUNTRY DOWN. BUT SYMKARIA IS RICH AND WHITE. SANTO MARCO IS NOT.

ALEXIE DOES NOT NEED MY SANCTIFICATION. HE HAS THE DIAMOND MARKET AND THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK. HIS FAMILY IS FULL OF GREAT ARTISTIC PATRONS.

YOU THINK YOURSELVES MEN OF HONOR, LOWERED TO THE COMPANY OF REPRESSIVE THUGS. IN FACT THERE IS LITTLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS.

WAS THE WAKANDAN MIRACLE CONSTRUCTED ON REGARD FOR THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE?

IT WAS CONSTRUCTED ON TRADITION, NOT THE FOLK WISDOM OF A BARBARIC WEST.

ALLOW ME, MY LORD. I HAVE MADE A SMALL STUDY OF YOUR LAND, WAKANDA. YOUR PROBLEM IS SCHIZOPHRENIA. IT IS EVIDENT EVEN IN YOUR DEEMANOR HERE.

BUT WAKANDA IS NO DIFFERENT. THE RESPECT WE ENJOY IS WEALTH--VIBRANIUM, SCIENCE, AND ACCOUNTS IN PLACES MOST HUMANS HAVE NEVER HEARD OF.

WAKANDA IS NOT WHITE. BUT BY THE PANTHER'S GAZE, NEITHER IS EUROPE.

IT IS TRUE. YOU BELIEVE YOURSELVES HEROES UNCORRUPTED BY THE DIRTY WORK REQUIRED TO REMAIN ON THE THRONE.

MY UNCLE S'YAN TOLD ME THAT. I WAS A KING, HE SAID, BLOOD-HEIR TO THE GOLDEN LEGACY, DESCENDANT OF ZANA.

AND AS FOR YOUR TRADITIONS, AKILI, WE BOTH KNOW THAT WITHOUT POWER, THEY COULD NOT SUSTAIN YOU LONG.

IN FACT THERE IS ONLY ONE GREAT TRADITION IN WAKANDA, AND IT IS THE SAME TRADITION AMONG US ALL--THE TRADITION OF HOLDING A NATION UNDER OUR FEET.

YOU ASKED FOR MY COUNSEL. HERE IT IS: YOU LACK THE WILL TO FOLLOW YOUR OWN MORES. RETURN TO YOUR TRUE NATURE, AND YOUR COUNTRY WILL BE AS PEACEFUL AS ANY OF OURS.

IF HE COULD SEE ME
HERE, S'YAN WOULD
REMINDE ME THAT THE
HANDLERS OF THESE
MEN ARE DICTATORS,
DESPOTS, AND STRONGMEN.
THAT THEIR PEACE IS THE
PEACE OF THE DEAD.

DEFYING YOUR
NATURE HAS BROUGHT
YOU A COUP D'ETAT,
INVASION, AND NOW
REVOLUTION. IF YOU WON'T
OBEY THE OLD TRADITIONS,
SOMEONE ELSE
SURELY WILL.

I AM A
KING.

AND WHILE THEY
DERIVE THEIR
POWER FROM
GUN BARRELS, I
DERIVE MINE
FROM A GOD.

OR
WORSE, NO
ONE WILL.

SOME DAYS I
WAKE UP ACTUALLY
BELIEVING THIS.

IN MY TIME IN
GENOSHA, WE
DEVELOPED A VARIETY
OF TACTICS FOR
QUASHING REBELLION
AND THE OVERAMBITION
OF JACOBS.

AND EVERY DAY I
WAKE UP KNOWING
MY PEOPLE MUST
BELIEVE THIS.

TELL
ME.

THE DJALIA

LET US
BEGIN, SHURI,
IN THE ANCIENT
WAKANDAN
DUCHY OF
ADOWA.

BEGIN
WHERE YOU
WISH, MOTHER!
WE BOTH KNOW
HOW IT ENDS!
NOW LET
US MATCH
POWER!

"IN THE ELDER YEARS
OF WAKANDA, ADOWA
PROSPERED.

"ITS CRAFTERS WERE
RENOWNED ACROSS
THE REALM.

"ITS HUNTERS
WERE ADROIT
AND BRAVE."

THE ANCIENT
ADOWANS WERE
HAPPY. AND TO OTHER
WAKANDANS IT SEEMED
THAT ALL THE HARMS OF
THE WORLD BREEZED
BY ADOWA.



BUT THE
ADOWANS WERE
NEVER FOOLED.
THEY KNEW WHAT
WAS OUT THERE
LURKING.



"IN THE EIGHTH VICENNIAL
OF ALKEBULAN'S ELDER
AGE, SHORTLY BEFORE
KING SAKURA'S RISING,
STRANGERS ARRIVED IN
THE COURT OF ADOWA
DEMANDING TRIBUTE.

"THE STRANGERS BELIEVED
ADOWA RICH BUT WEAK. WHY,
THEY REASONED, SHOULD THE
FRUITS OF THE WORLD BE
DISTRIBUTED IN CAPRICE?
WHY SHOULD ADOWANS
BE SO HAPPY?"



TO THE
STRONG AND TO
THE WARRIORS SHOULD
GO THE BOUNTY OF EVERY
VALLEY, FOR THE WARRIORS
GIVE OF THE BODY. GLORY
TO THEM, THE TRULY
DESERVING.



AND MAY THE
UNTRAVAILING DIRT-
FARMER, THE HUNTER
OF SMALL GAME, THE
FORGER OF POTS AND
TRINKETS, EVER DINE
ON THISTLES AND
THORNS.

"THE DUKE OF ADOWA HAD NO STANDING ARMY. BUT HE HAD A PEOPLE WHO WOULD PART WITH THEIR LIVES BEFORE PARTING WITH THE LAND UNDER THEIR FEET."

"SO HE RESOLVED TO MELT INTO HIS NATION, RETURN TO THE ESSENCE, AND BECAME ONE WITH HIS OWN PEOPLE."

"WHEN THE STRANGERS RETURNED, THEY FOUND THE COURT EMPTY. ITS TREASURY BARREN. ITS GRAIN STORES BARE."

"PERHAPS, JUST THEN, SOME OF THE STRANGERS BEGAN TO WORRY."



PERHAPS THESE FEW SENSED THEN THAT THEY WERE NOT FACING A KING, A DUKE, OR EVEN A MAN.

PERHAPS THEY LONGED TO ENTREAT THEIR FELLOW WARRIORS TO TURN BACK.



BUT THE DRUMS TALKED AVARICE, AND THE SPEARS SPOKE SELF-REGARD. AND THOSE WHO KNEW DID NOT SAY.



MAYBE THAT WAS THE PROBLEM.



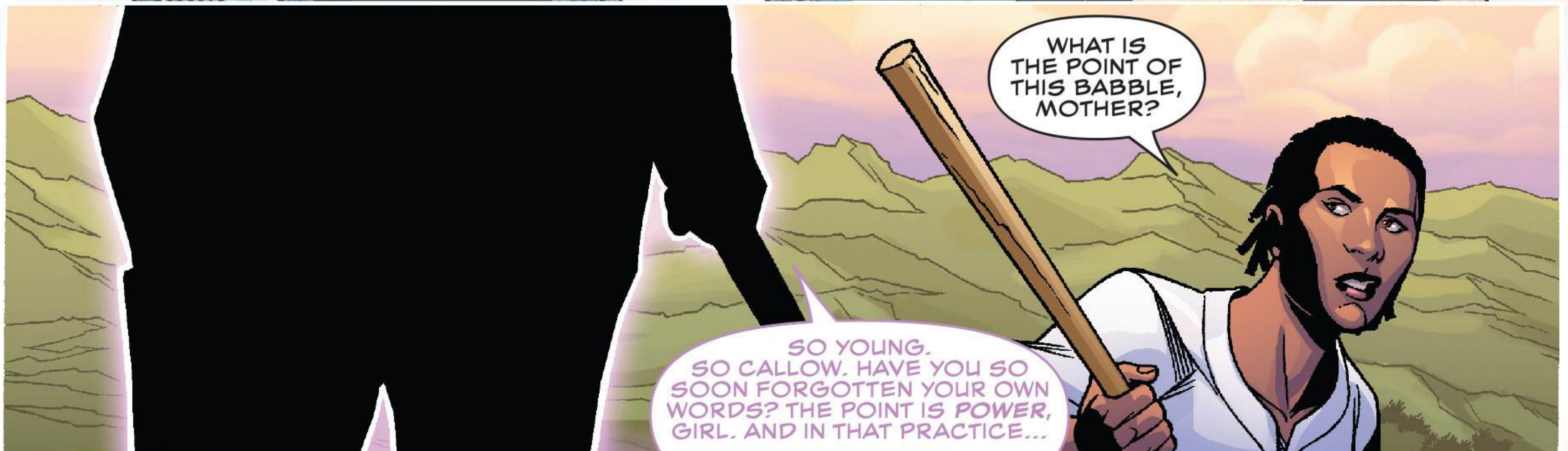


"THE STRANGERS WENT INTO THE FOREST TO CLAIM THE FRUITS OF THE ADOWAN HUNT, BUT WERE THEMSELVES HUNTED.

"THE STRANGERS WENT INTO THE VILLAGES TO TAKE WHAT THEY WANTED, BUT THE VILLAGES WOULD NOT HAVE THEM.

"THE STRANGERS WENT OUT TO THE FARMS TO CLAIM THEIR HARVEST, AND WERE THEMSELVES HARVESTED.

"AT EVERY CAMP, IN EVERY ACTION, THE STRANGERS FOUND NO PEACE. THE ENTIRE LAND HAD RISEN AGAINST THEM."

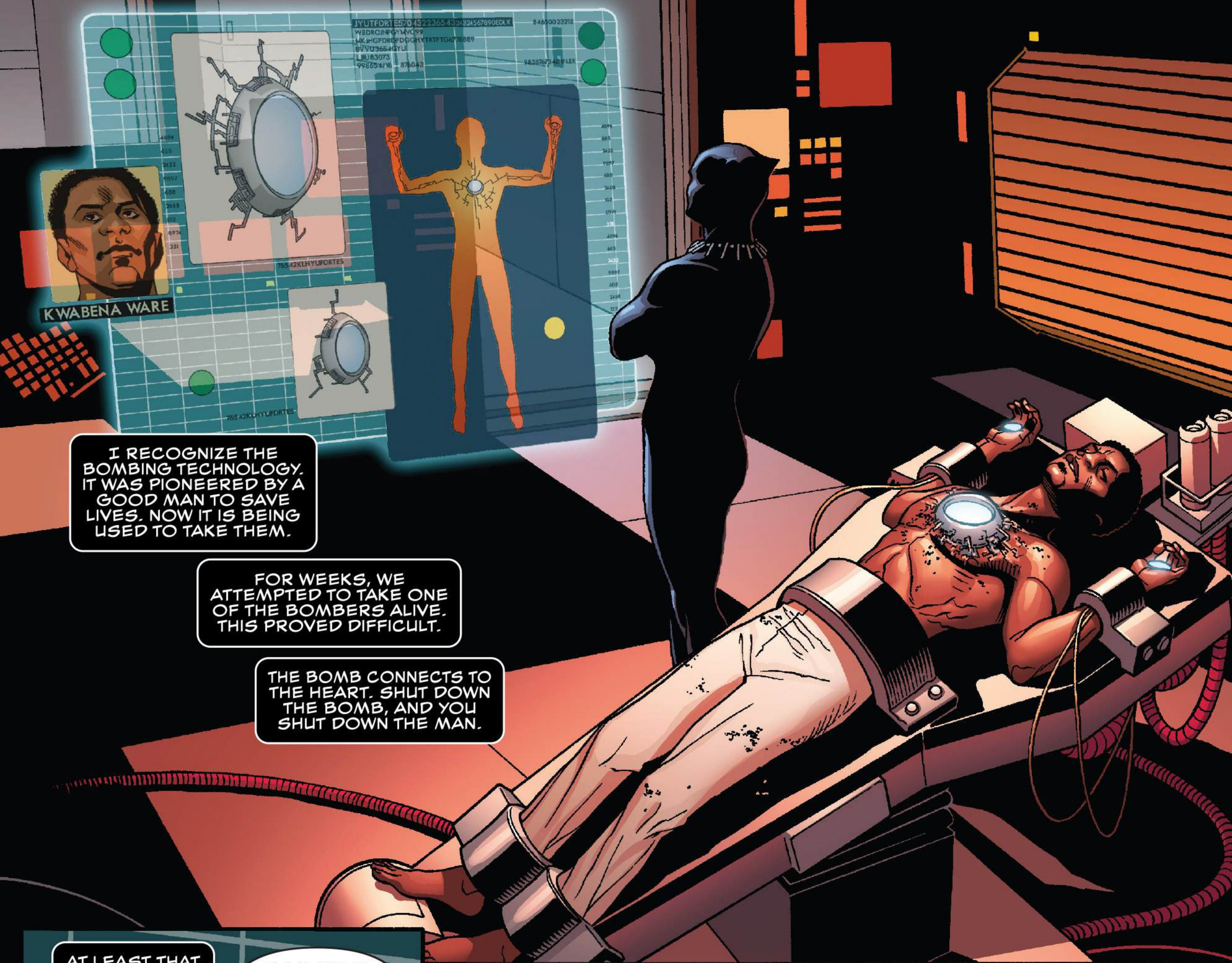


WHAT IS THE POINT OF THIS BABBLE, MOTHER?

SO YOUNG. SO CALLOW. HAVE YOU SO SOON FORGOTTEN YOUR OWN WORDS? THE POINT IS POWER, GIRL. AND IN THAT PRACTICE...



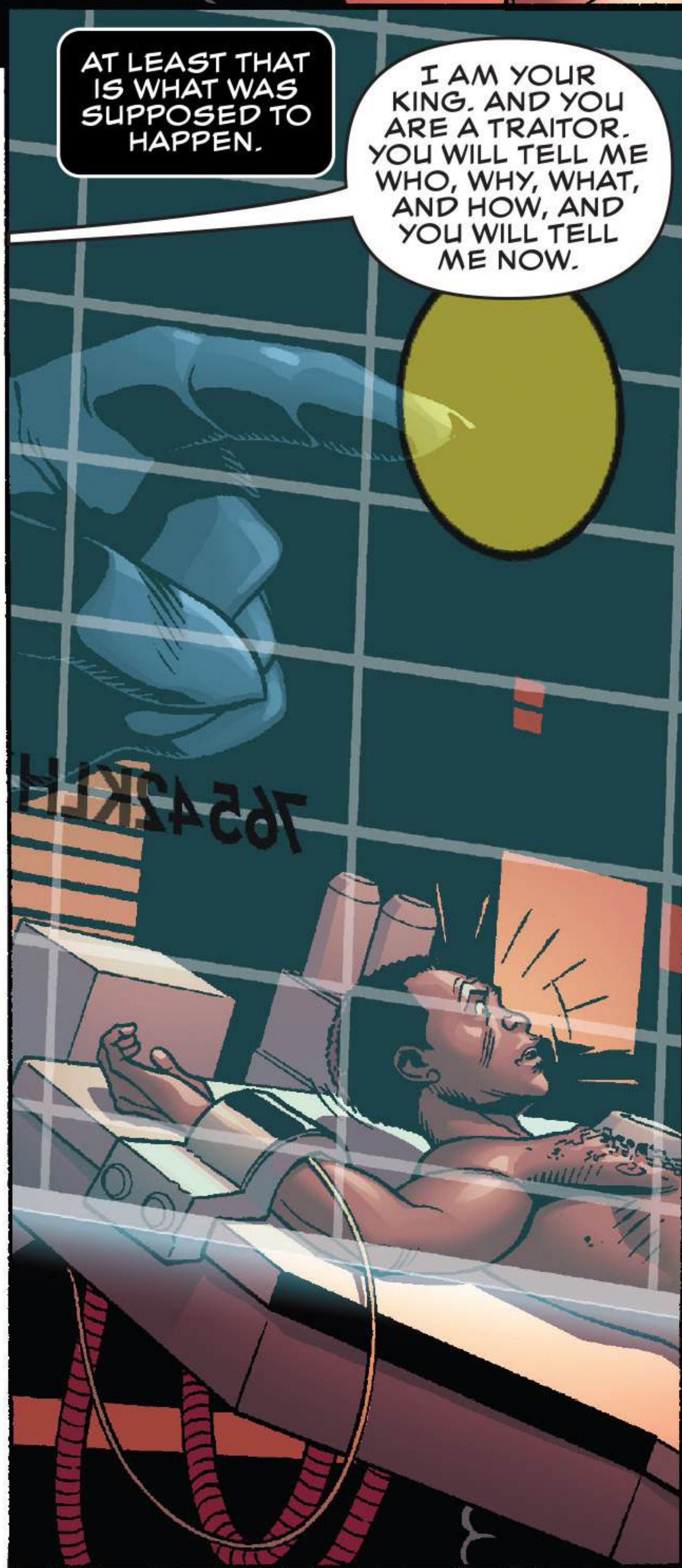
...EITHER YOU ARE A NATION, OR YOU ARE NOTHING.



I RECOGNIZE THE BOMBING TECHNOLOGY. IT WAS PIONEERED BY A GOOD MAN TO SAVE LIVES. NOW IT IS BEING USED TO TAKE THEM.

FOR WEEKS, WE ATTEMPTED TO TAKE ONE OF THE BOMBERS ALIVE. THIS PROVED DIFFICULT.

THE BOMB CONNECTS TO THE HEART. SHUT DOWN THE BOMB, AND YOU SHUT DOWN THE MAN.



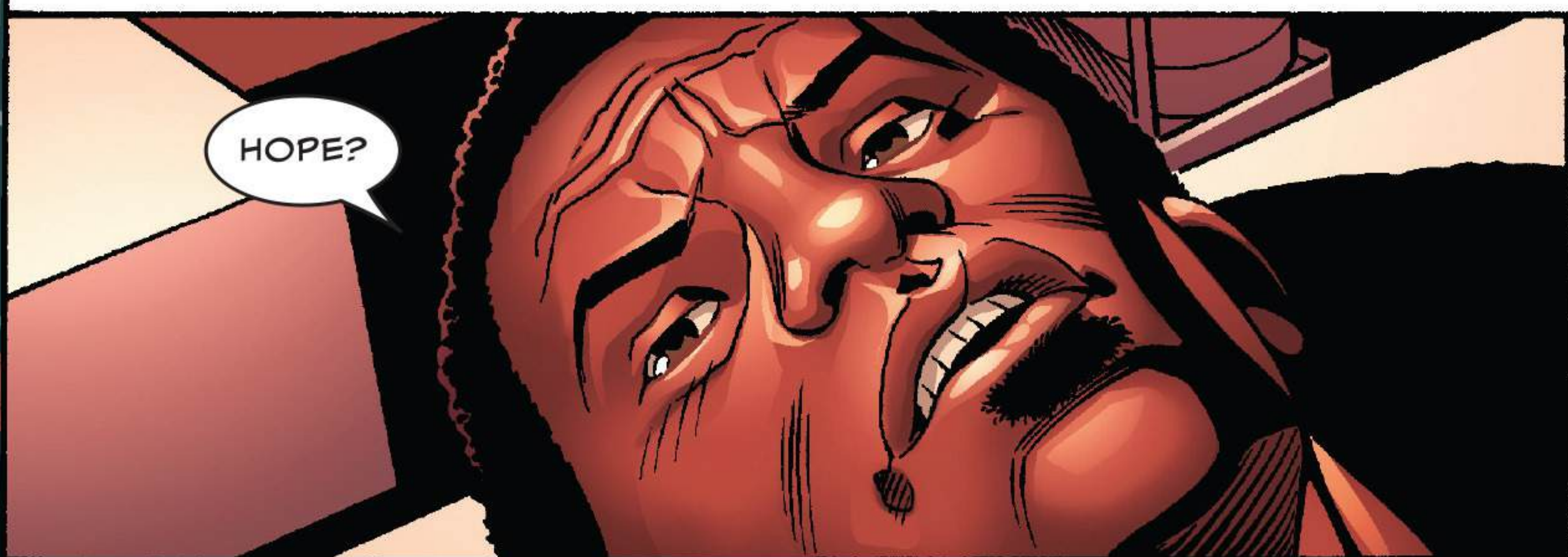
AT LEAST THAT IS WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN.

I AM YOUR KING. AND YOU ARE A TRAITOR. YOU WILL TELL ME WHO, WHY, WHAT, AND HOW, AND YOU WILL TELL ME NOW.



I... WHAT...?

NO. NO QUESTIONS. EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE IS MERCY FROM ME. AGAIN--WHO. WHY. WHAT. HOW. ANY HOPE YOU HAVE LEFT RESTS ON THESE QUESTIONS.



HOPE?



YOU SPEAK OF HOPE? MY HOPE DIED WHEN NAMOR DROWNED MY VILLAGE. IT DIED AGAIN WHEN THE BLACK ORDER MADE MY BROTHER BEG FOR DEATH.

WHERE WERE YOU WHEN YOUR COUNTRY NEEDED YOU? GALLIVANTING WITH AVENGERS? BEDDING DOWN WITH THE WEATHER WITCH?



AND NOW YOU THREATEN ME? YOU ACCUSE ME OF DESTROYING WHAT YOU COULD NOT BOTHER TO DEFEND? NOW YOU SPEAK OF "HOPE"?

YOUR REIGN HAS MADE A MOCKERY OF HOPE. WE WERE MIGHTY ONCE. LOOK HOW FAR YOU HAVE BROUGHT US DOWN.



YOUR BROTHER, KWAKU WARE--DO YOU HONOR HIM?

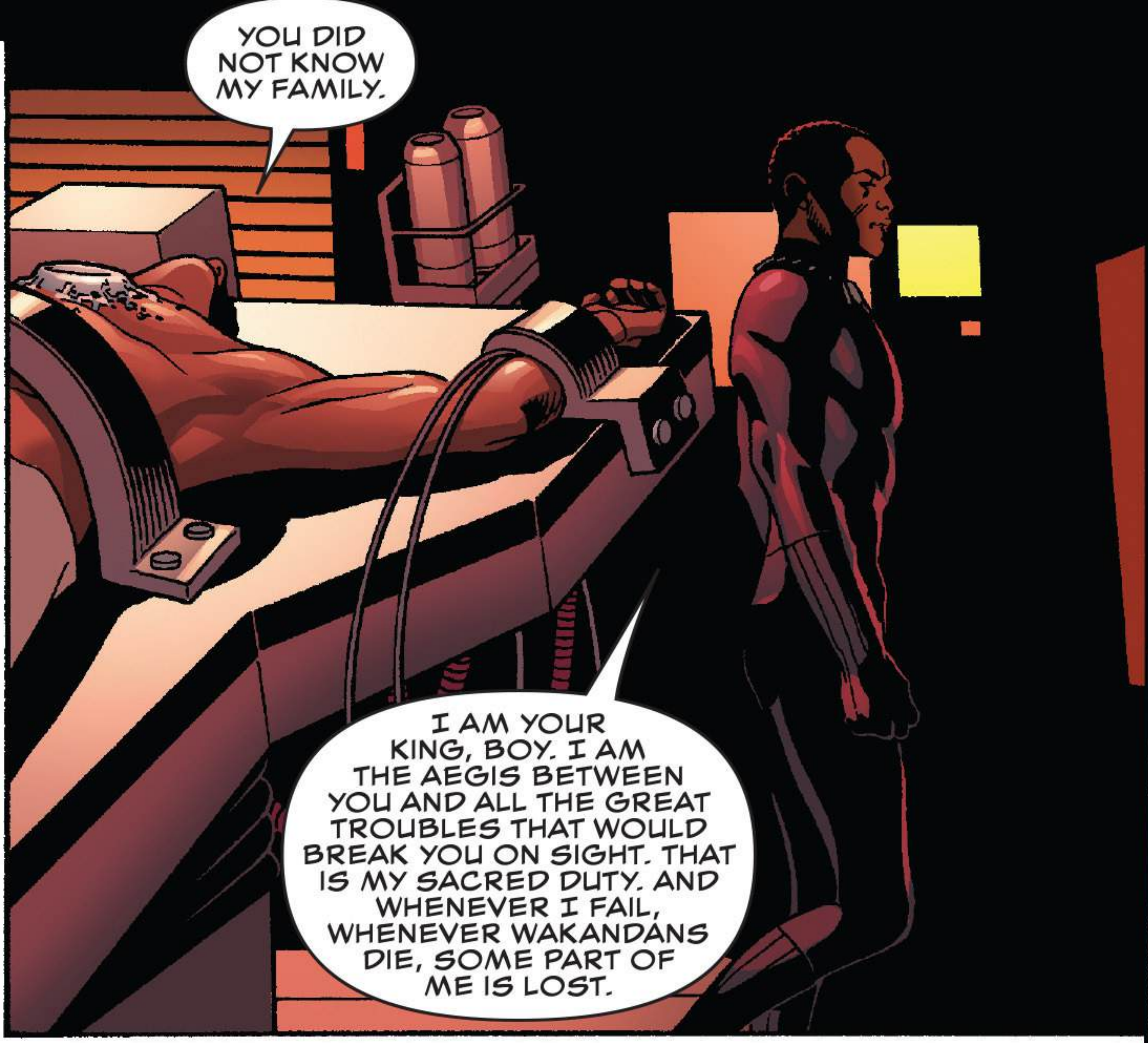
WHAT? HOW DO YOU KNOW...? DON'T YOU DARE SPEAK HIS NAME!

I ASKED YOU A QUESTION. YOU HAVE COMMITTED YOURSELF TO THE KILLER OF WAKANDAN BABIES AND MARKET WOMEN. DOES THIS ACTION HONOR YOUR FAMILY?



YOU DID NOT KNOW MY FAMILY.

I AM YOUR KING, BOY. I AM THE AEGIS BETWEEN YOU AND ALL THE GREAT TROUBLES THAT WOULD BREAK YOU ON SIGHT. THAT IS MY SACRED DUTY. AND WHENEVER I FAIL, WHENEVER WAKANDANS DIE, SOME PART OF ME IS LOST.



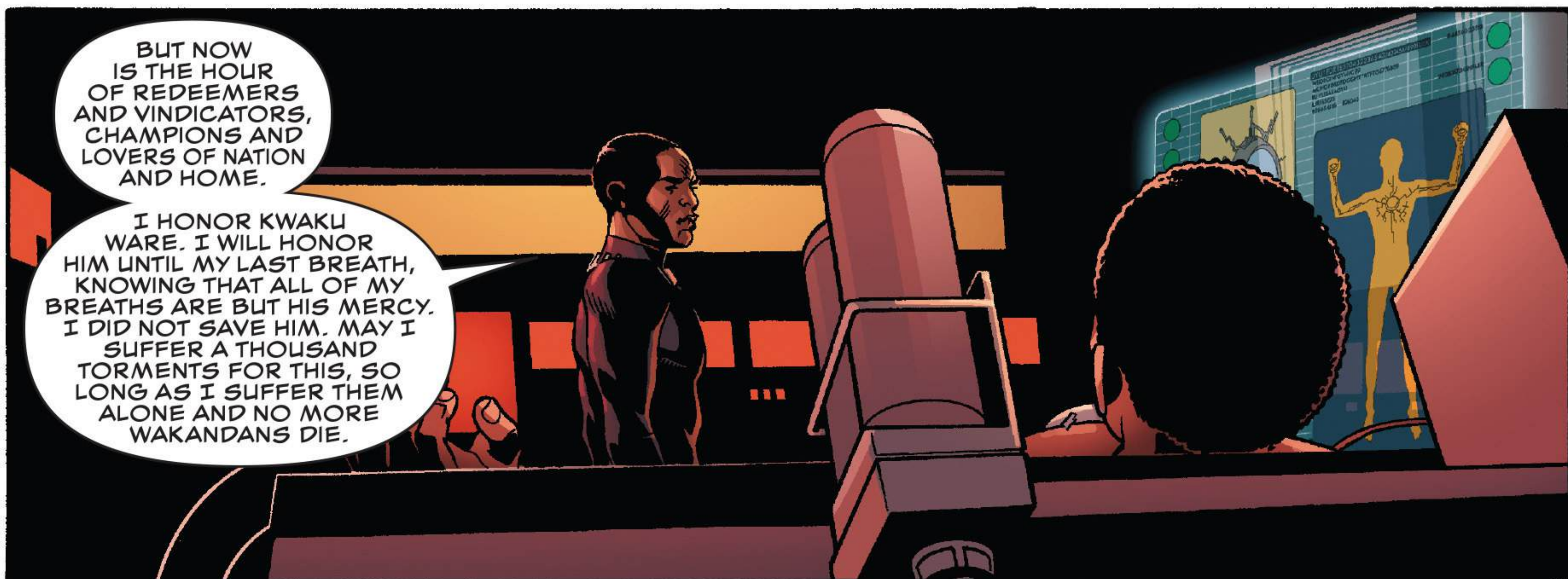
YOUR BROTHER, KWAKU, LOVED TO SWIM IN THE RIVER GIRMA. HE WON THE WRESTLING TOURNAMENT AT KANANNA-MDOGO, AND THEN CARRIED YOU ON HIS SHOULDERS THROUGH THE TOWN. HE WAS MIGHTY TO YOU.

AND THEN EVIL MEN CAME AND REDUCED HIM. THEY DID NOT JUST KILL HIM, THEY TOOK YOUR PICTURE OF ALL THAT HE WAS AND BURNED IT IN FRONT OF YOU.



YOU DO NOT WISH TO REMEMBER HIM THAT WAY--A WEAKLING, A BEGGAR. AND YET THAT IS HOW YOU SEE HIM EVERY NIGHT, AND HIS WEAKNESS, HIS BEGGING, HUMILIATES YOU AGAIN AND AGAIN.

AND WITH THE EVIL MEN LONG GONE, YOU HAVE TURNED YOUR HATE, YOUR RAGE, UPON YOUR OWN PEOPLE. YOU HAVE ALLIED WITH A KIND OF DISHONOR FAR BEYOND ANYTHING EVER DONE BY YOUR BROTHER.



BUT NOW IS THE HOUR OF REDEEMERS AND VINDICATORS, CHAMPIONS AND LOVERS OF NATION AND HOME.

I HONOR KWAKU WARE. I WILL HONOR HIM UNTIL MY LAST BREATH, KNOWING THAT ALL OF MY BREATHS ARE BUT HIS MERCY. I DID NOT SAVE HIM. MAY I SUFFER A THOUSAND TORMENTS FOR THIS, SO LONG AS I SUFFER THEM ALONE AND NO MORE WAKANDANS DIE.



THAT IS MY SACRED DUTY. BECAUSE THIS IS WHO I AM--A KING. YOUR KING.

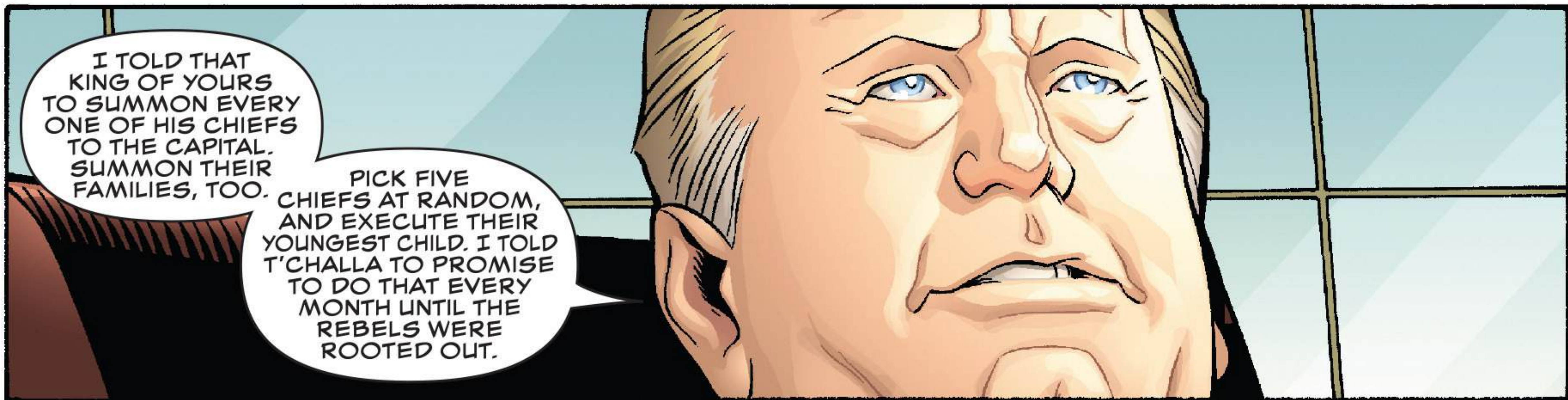
AND NOW YOU MUST DECIDE WHO YOU ARE. WILL YOU HONOR YOUR OWN PAIN, OR WILL YOU HONOR YOUR NATION? WILL YOU SERVE HATE OR WILL YOU SERVE THE MEMORY OF YOUR BROTHER?



THEN WE ARE AGREED. KWABENA WARE, WE SHALL HAVE A PACT, YOU AND I. SPEAK OF IT TO NO MAN.

I...

I WILL SERVE MY NATION.





THE JABARI-LANDS



--PICK
FIVE CHIEFS
AT RANDOM,
AND EXECUTE
THEIR YOUNGEST
CHILD.



I TOLD
T'CHALLA TO
PROMISE TO DO
THAT EVERY MONTH
UNTIL THE REBELS
WERE ROOTED
OUT.



WHAT IS IT,
BELOVED?

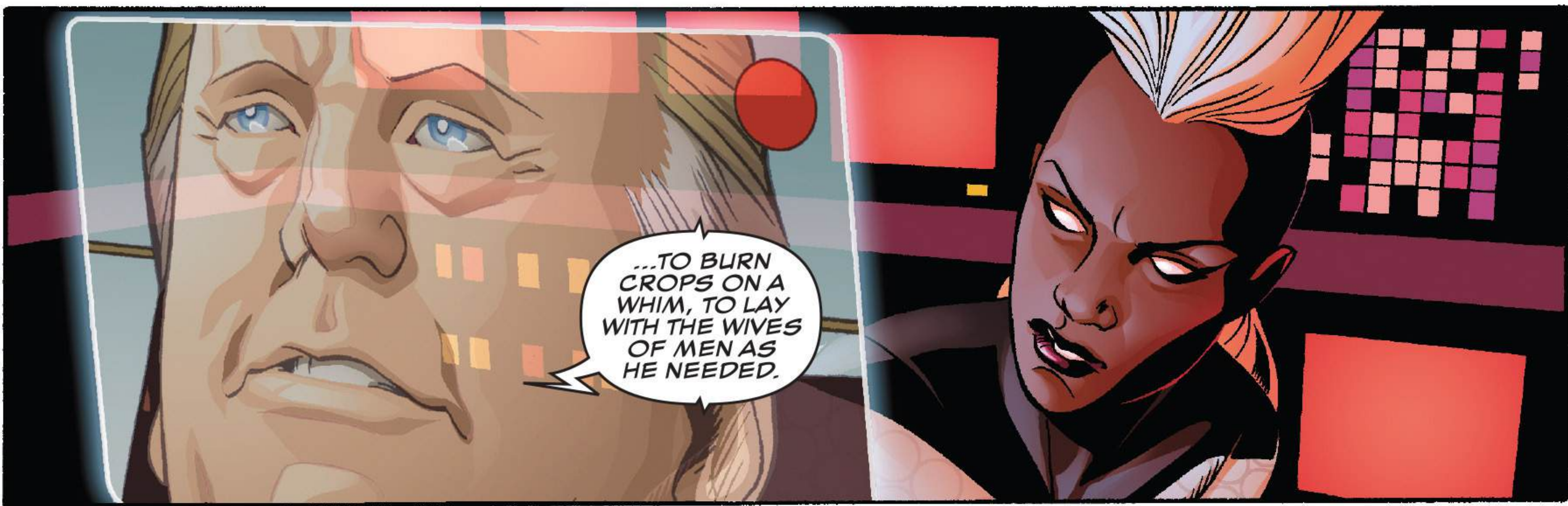




I TOLD THAT KING OF YOURS TO SUMMON EVERY ONE OF HIS CHIEFS...



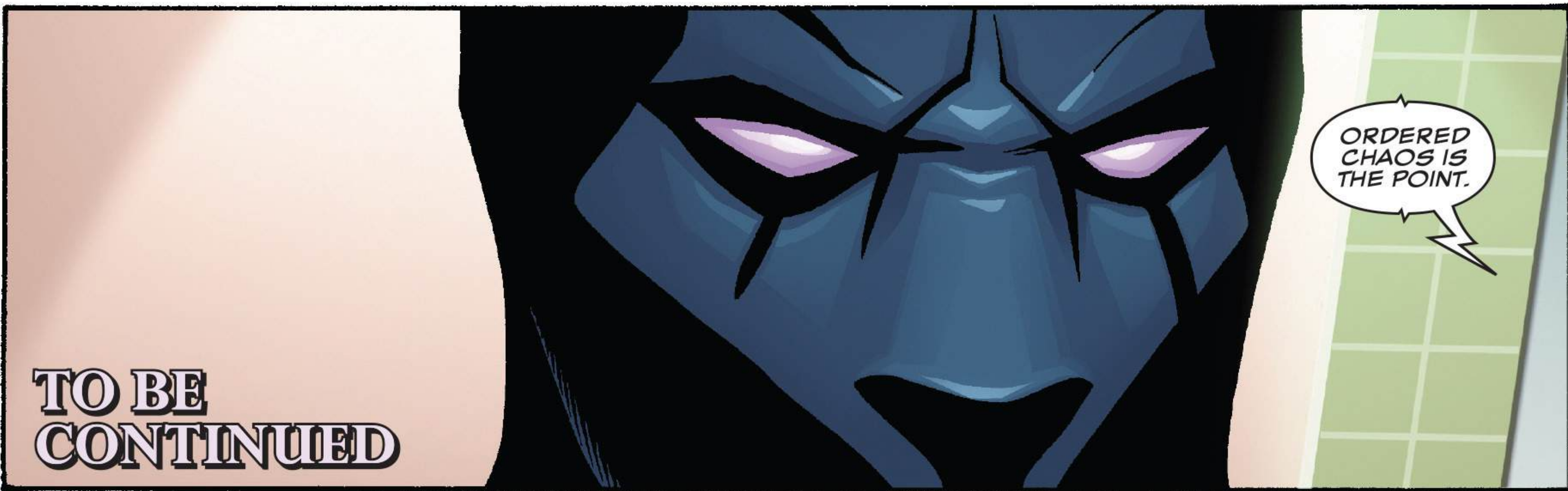
I TOLD HIM TO DO MUCH MORE...



...TO BURN CROPS ON A WHIM, TO LAY WITH THE WIVES OF MEN AS HE NEEDED.



ONLY IN TERROR CAN A WISE MAN RULE.



ORDERED CHAOS IS THE POINT.

TO BE CONTINUED

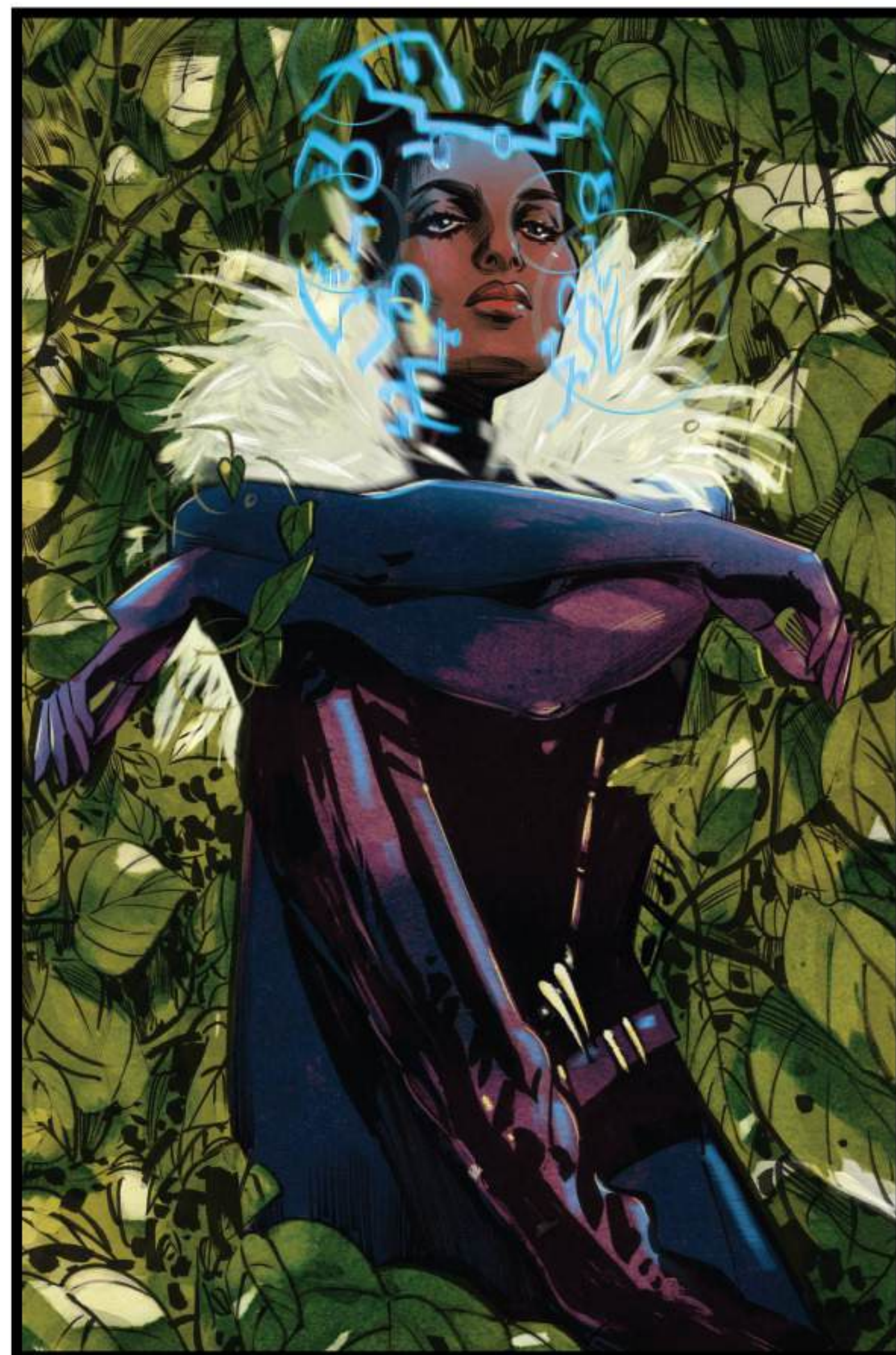
MARVEL CELEBRATES THE START OF **A NATION UNDER OUR FEET'S** SECOND ARC WITH THIS **SPECIAL VARIANT COLLECTION!**



The Astonishing Ant-Man #11
variant cover by
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Spider-Gwen #11
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PAUL POPE & TOBY CYPRESS



Sam Wilson: Captain America #12
variant cover by
TULA LOTAY



All-New X-Men #12
variant cover by
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International Iron Man #6
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A-Force #8
variant cover by
RAHZZAH

AND MORE! LOOK FOR THEM THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF AUGUST!



DOWN WITH THE KING



Send your emails to mheroes@marvel.com, and mark them "okay to print."

Welcome back, Wakandans...and welcome back Zeke Stane from Matt Fraction & Salvador Larroca's stellar INVINCIBLE IRON MAN run. He sure knows how to end a business meeting, eh?

And welcome aboard Chris Sprouse and Karl Story, our art team for this second arc. Brian will be back with #9, but write in and let us know what you think of Chris and Karl's work in the meantime!

Mitchell Kukulka

I do. We saw an example of that this issue with Zeke Stane. Expect to see more of that in the next two or three issues. The interconnectedness is one of the coolest things about writing for Marvel.

To offer a counterpoint to Elizabeth's letter [from issue #2], I'm really enjoying the characterization of T'Challa. Is there "nothing to him but his relationship with his nation"?

Well, there really isn't, or at least that's his goal. Being King and protector means that there's no way for him to conduct himself, and no way for us to understand him, except in that context. Especially after issue 2, I'm really enjoying a hero whose personal drama not only takes a backseat to his sense of duty, but is something that must be conquered. This is a book that I never expected to become my most anticipated title! Kudos!

Tim Hinton

I think this hints at a real conflict in T'Challa that you'll see explored throughout the rest of the run. Is there really nothing else to him? Certainly his job doesn't leave room for much else. But what's actually going on in the guy's head? You saw some of that in this issue. Expect to see more in the next.

Hi Ta-Nehisi and Brian,

I love how the color black is utilized in this book because it gives many dimensions to these characters. Not only do I admire the multiple tones and shades of skin color, but I also connect with the silhouette panels, especially the love scene between Ayo and Aneka. How was the silhouette idea conceived for the Black Panther series?

Thank you for giving us this book,
Louie

This is all Brian and our great colorist Laura Martin. What the two of them have done on this book has been breathtaking.

Mr. Coates,

Congratulations on your team's great start with these first two issues! I've never read Black Panther before, but when I saw you listed as the writer, I went straight to my local comic book store and started a subscription (my only subscription of any book).

One thing that struck me in particular in the second issue is that certain images altered--in an instant--my misconceptions (or non-conceptions) of African cities. Sure, sure, Birnin Azzaria may not be a real place, but seeing Tetu's tribal clothing within the context of a metropolitan university got me frantically Googling images of the skylines of Johannesburg and other African cities.

I love the examination of the problems of monarchy, even a modern, benevolent one. ESPECIALLY because it has given us the incredible Midnight Angels. I just hope as we move forward that they don't turn too bloodthirsty and easy to dismiss as heroes...I want to believe in their cause!

Ray Fallon
Collingswood, NJ

That's exactly what I'd want. Beautiful to hear that. Wait until you see the movie.

Hey Mr. Coates!

Maybe I'm just a sucker for politically-inspired narratives in comics, but even after the first few issues of you and Mr. Stelfreeze's new take on "Black Panther," I'm already ranking it up there with my all-time favorite Marvel books. Flattery aside, I'm writing you because I was wondering how you envisioned your new Wakanda fitting in with the rest of the Marvel Universe. I can appreciate and understand if you planned on keeping the story focused squarely on the action within Wakanda's borders, but I was wondering if you see any story potential in writing scenarios where T'Challa could interact with other heroes and villains in the greater Marvel Universe. I'm only wondering this because I'd be curious to see how the wider cast of Marvel characters (who are predominantly white and apolitical) would fare when written into a story so political and steeped in Black culture.

Best of luck with the book and life and stuff!

Keep your letters coming, folks. You just might see it in the next issue! Until then... -T



GANG GANG

COATES ● SPROUSE ● STORY ● MARTIN

BLACK PANTHER

#6



MARVEL

WILLIAMS

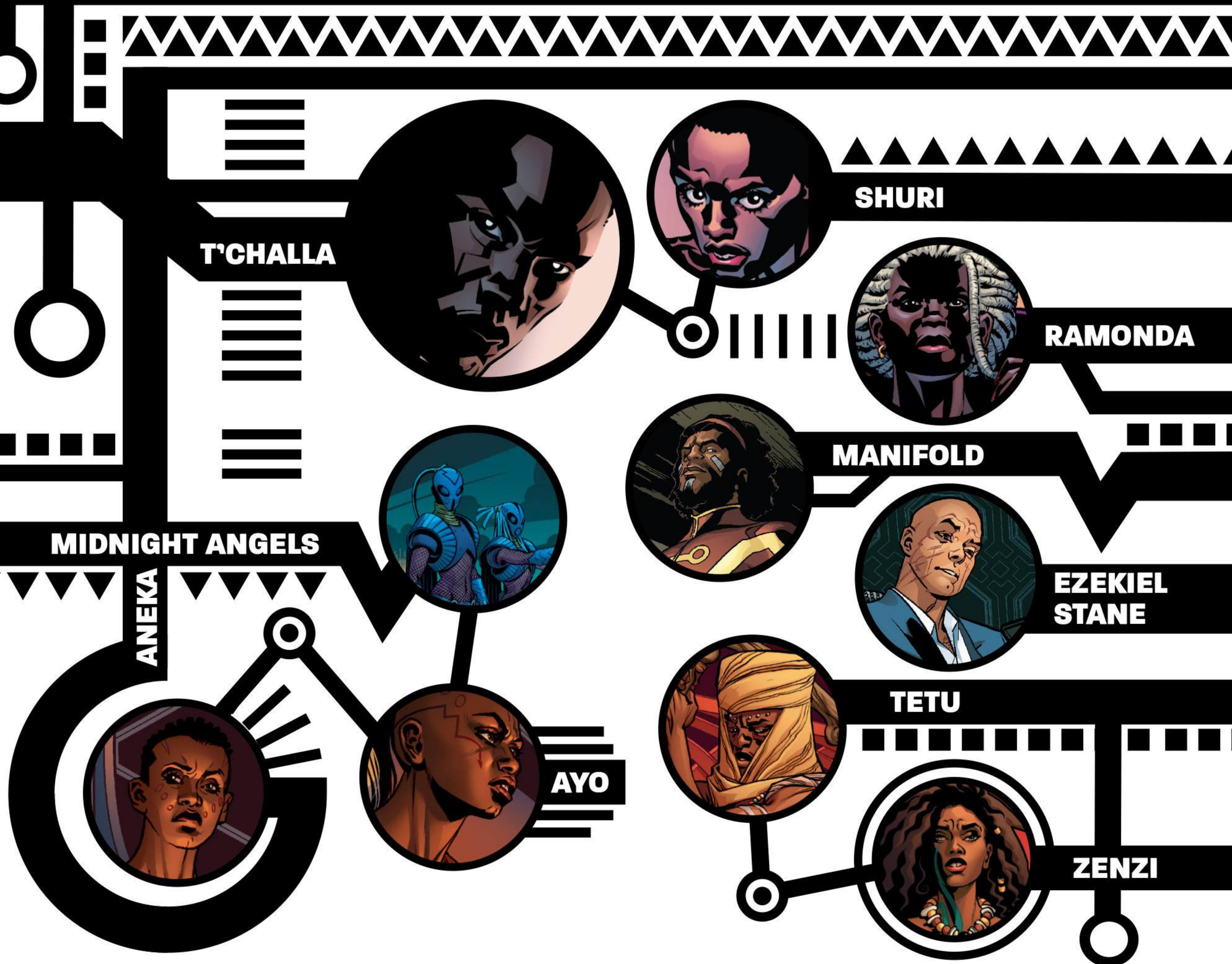
BLACK PANTHER

AFTER A SUICIDE BOMBER SEVERELY INJURED HIS MOTHER, T'CHALLA DECLARED WAR ON TETU'S REBELS. WITH THE HELP OF **MANIFOLD** AND THE **HATUT ZERAZE**, HE ORCHESTRATED RAIDS ON THEIR HIDEOUTS, MANAGING TO CAPTURE SEVERAL TERRORISTS OUTFITTED WITH REPULSOR BOMB BIOTECHNOLOGY.

AT AKILI'S BEHEST, A COUNTERREVOLUTION COUNCIL WAS CONVENED AND PRESENTED T'CHALLA WITH THE CRUELEST MEASURES FOR DEALING WITH A COUP. **TETU** AND **EZEKIEL STANE** LEAKED THE PARTICULARS OF THIS MEETING TO THE WORLD.

MEANWHILE, SHURI'S SPIRIT TRAVELS THE PLANE OF WAKANDAN MEMORY KNOWN AS THE DJALIA. SHE IS LED BY A GRIOT INHABITING THE VISAGE OF RAMONDA.

Discover more about the Black Panther and Wakanda with the BLACK PANTHER: A NATION UNDER OUR FEET spotlight videos at marvel.com/PantherNation



BLACK PANTHER

UNDER OUR FEET

part 6

writer **TA-NEHISI COATES**

penciler **CHRIS SPROUSE**

inker **KARL STORY**

color artist **LAURA MARTIN**

letterer **VC's JOE SABINO**
design **MANNY MEDEROS**
logo **RIAN HUGHES**
cover by **BRIAN STELFREEZE**

variant covers by

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BLACK PANTHER created by **STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY**

TAIFA NGAO,
BIRNIN ZANA



IT BEGAN
WITH ONE MAN--
THE HERETIC OF
BIRNIN AZZARIA
REVERTING TO HIS
GOSPEL OF HIGH
TREASON.



THE GOSPEL
WAS A CONTAGION,
SPREADING OUT INTO
THE REGIONS OF
MUTAPA, N'JADA,
PIYE...



...SPREADING
EVEN BEYOND
WAKANDA'S
BORDERS.

WBDROJNFGYMYC99
MKJHGFDRDFDGGHYT
BYVU3654GYU
998654JY6 876043

THE UNITED
NATIONS CANNOT SIT
IDLY BY WHILE A RULER
MASSACRES HIS OWN
PEOPLE AND TREATS
WITH A COUNCIL OF
TORTURERS.



846500 23213

983876734JHFLLER

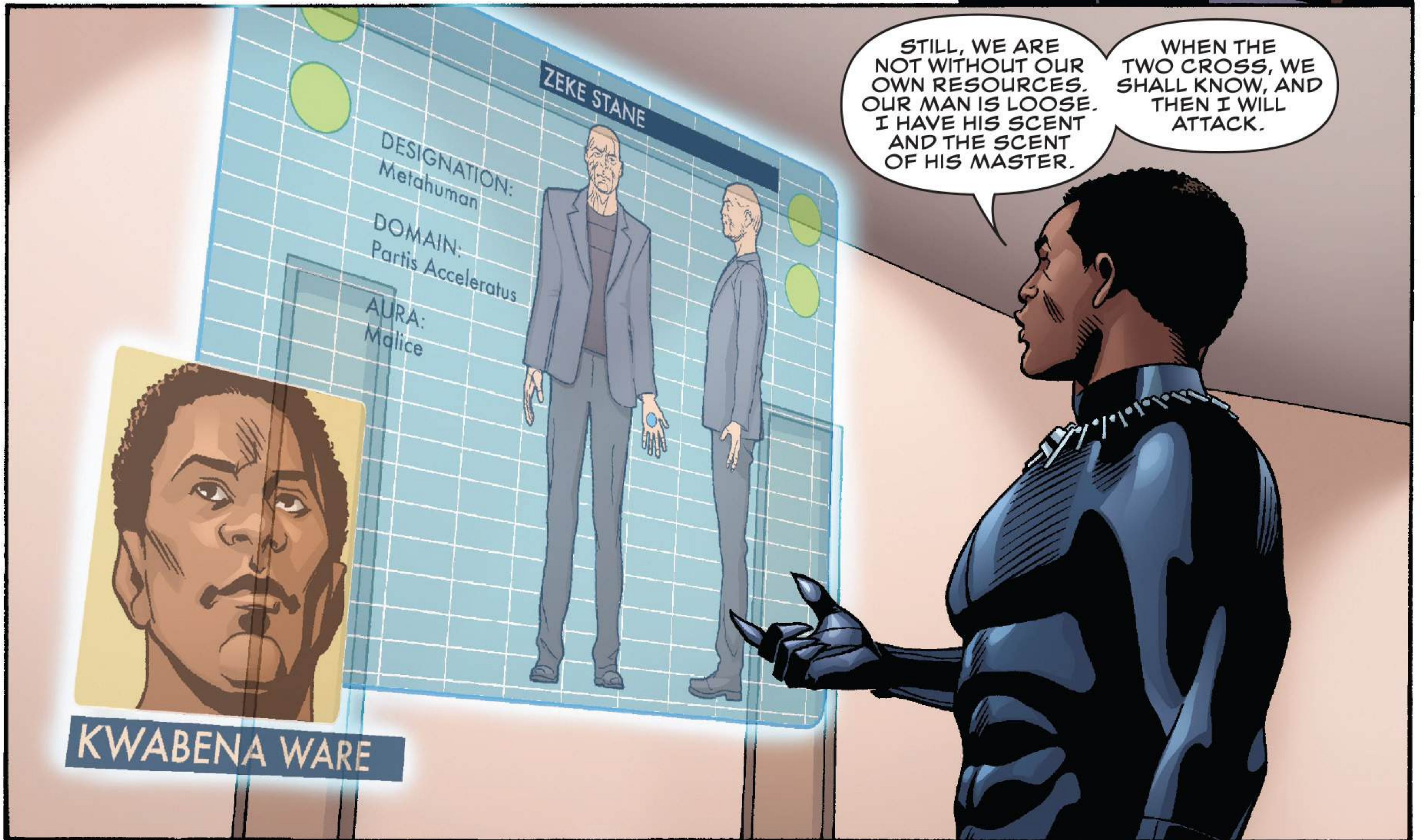
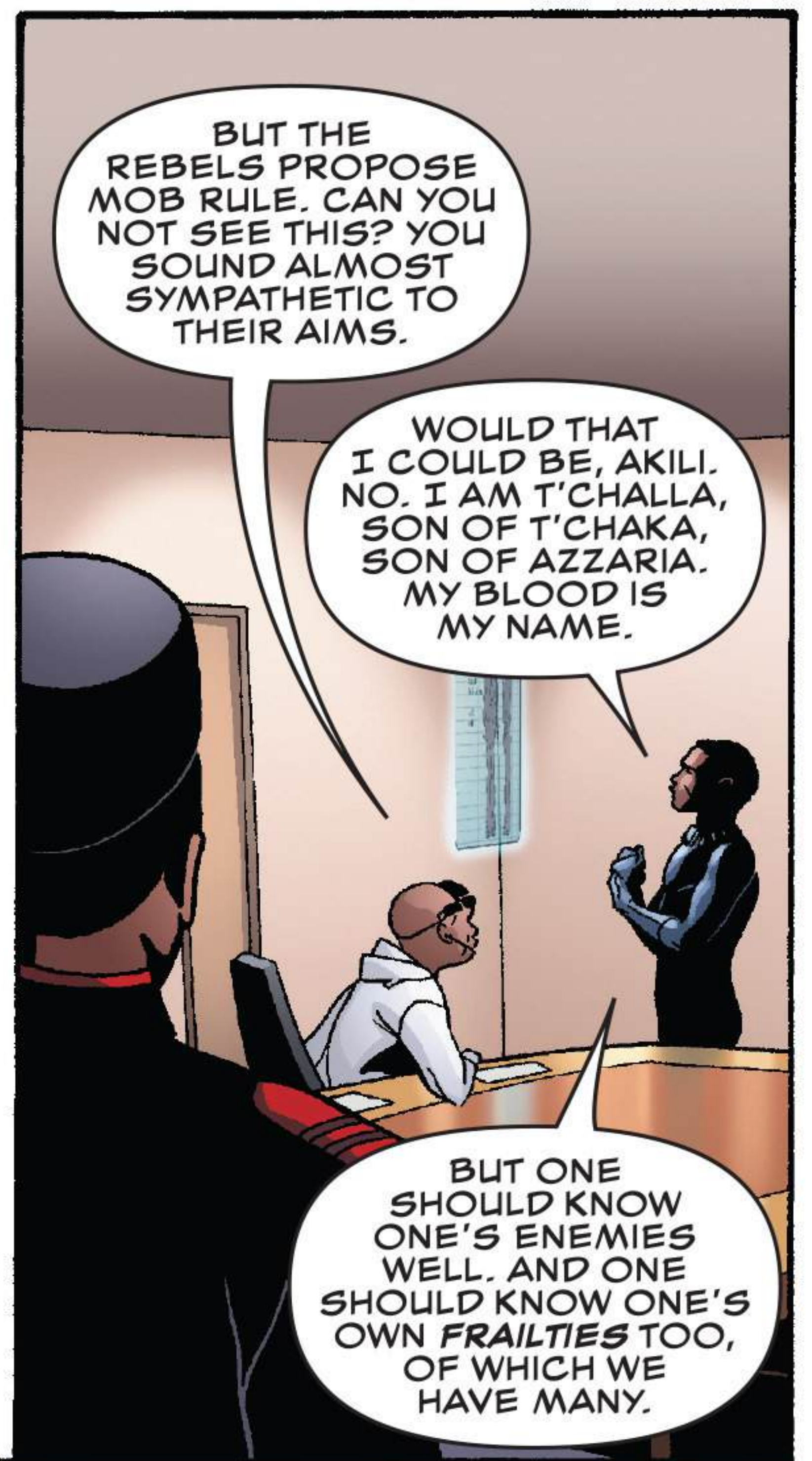
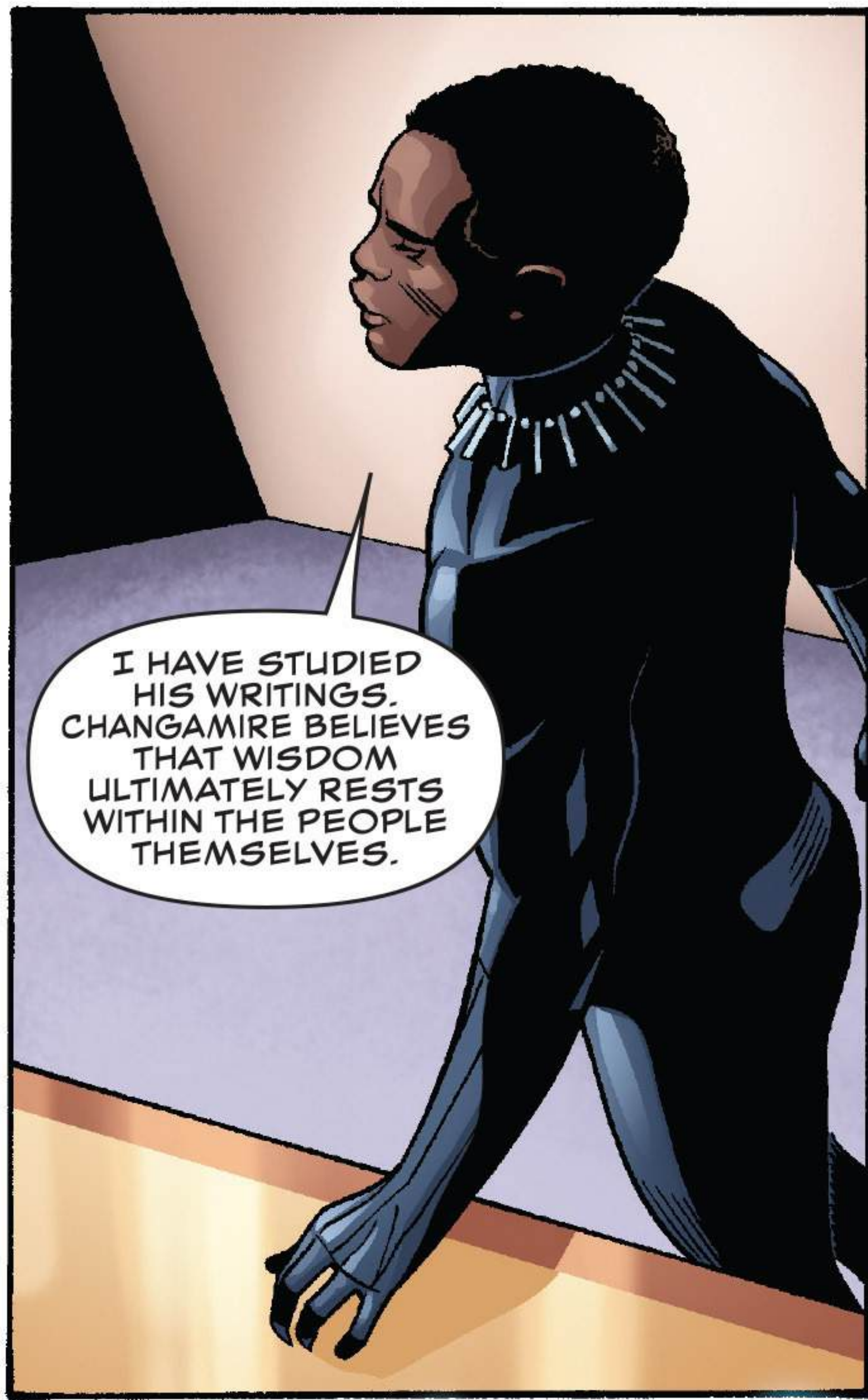
CHANGAMIRE
INVOKES GANDHI,
BUT THE REBELS OF
ALKAMA AND THE JABARI-
LANDS WHO DEIFY HIM
UNDERSTAND THE
VIOLENCE OF HIS
MESSAGE.

THE HERETIC
PROPOSES TO
END THE RULE OF
THE PANTHER AND
ELEVATE ANARCHY
IN ITS PLACE.



NO, HODARI.
HE PROPOSES
TO END THE RULE
OF MONARCHS
AND REPLACE
THEM WITH THE
PEOPLE.





THE JABARI-LANDS

SISTERS,
YOU NEED
NO LESSONS
FROM ME ON THE
WORK YOU ARE
NOW CALLED
TO DO.

WHAT I WILL
TELL YOU IS
THESE MEN ARE
COMING, THAT
THESE MEN
ARE YOUR
BROTHERS...

...THAT YOUR
BROTHERS HAVE
RAISED THE
BLACK FLAG.

AND
SO HAVE
WE.

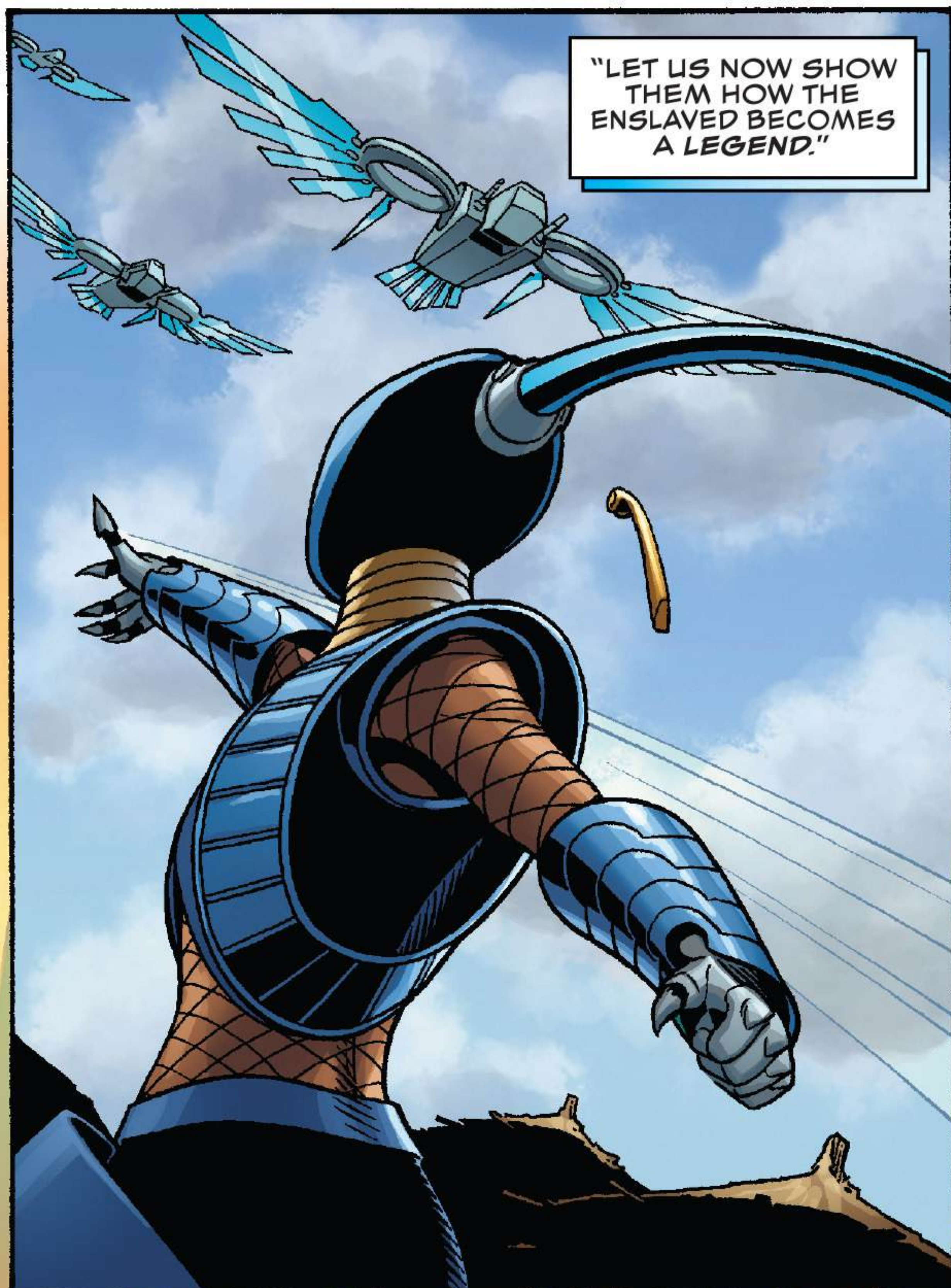
"ONCE WE WERE
SLAVES TO
HARAMU-FAL.

"ONCE WE WERE
BRED BY MEN SOLELY
TO GIVE OUR BODIES
TO OTHER MEN.

"WE HAVE SEEN HOW
THE WOMAN BECOMES
THE ENSLAVED."

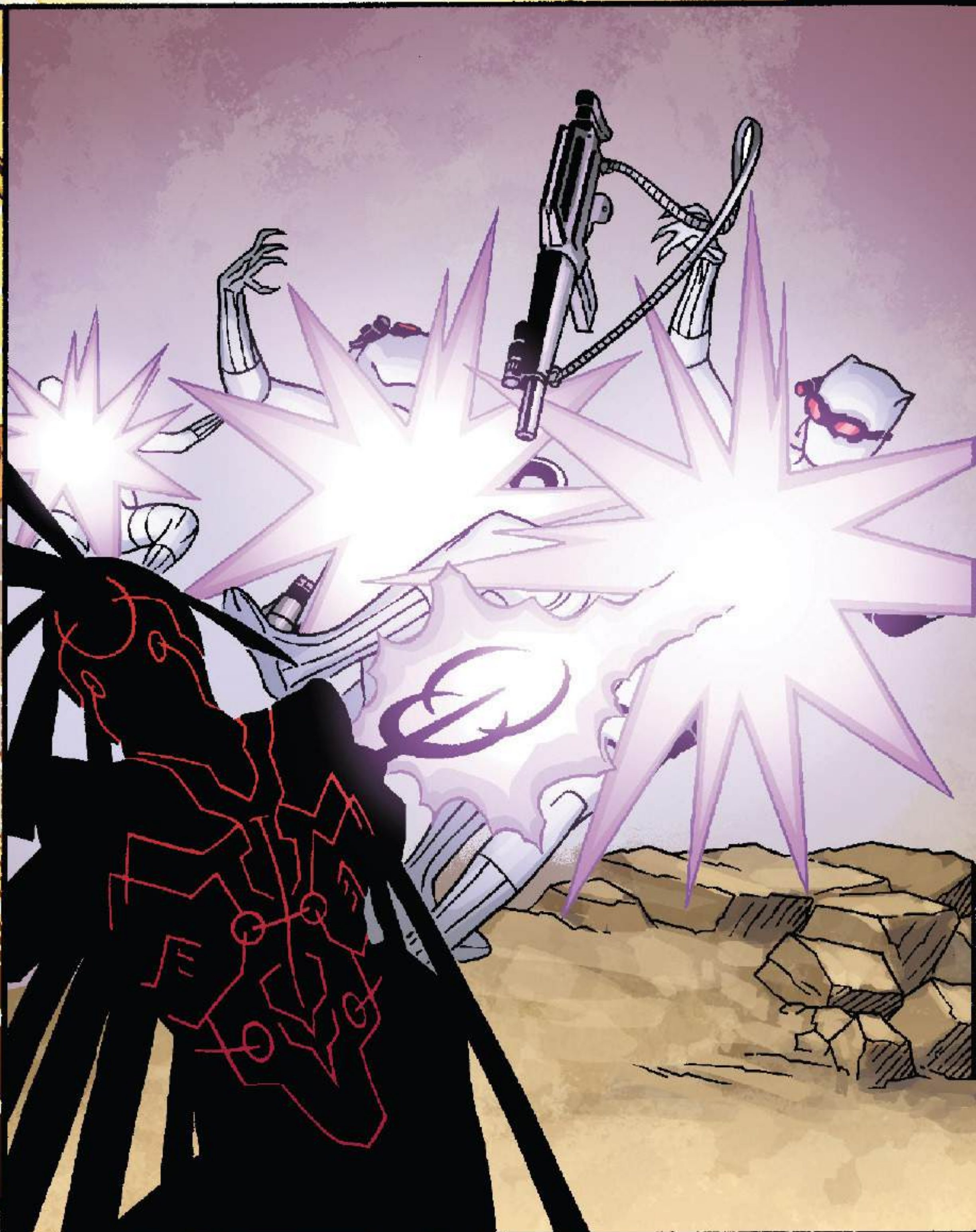
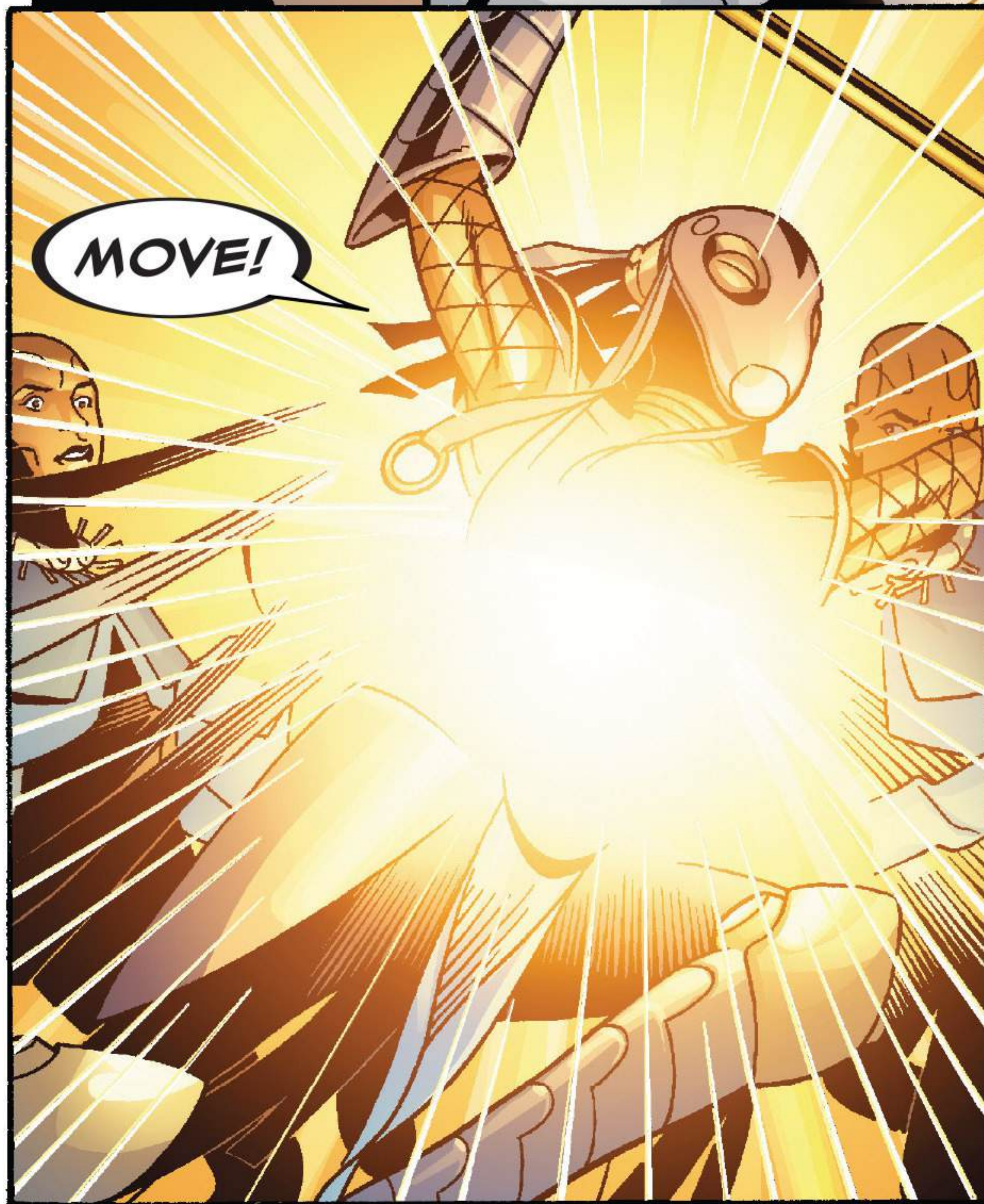


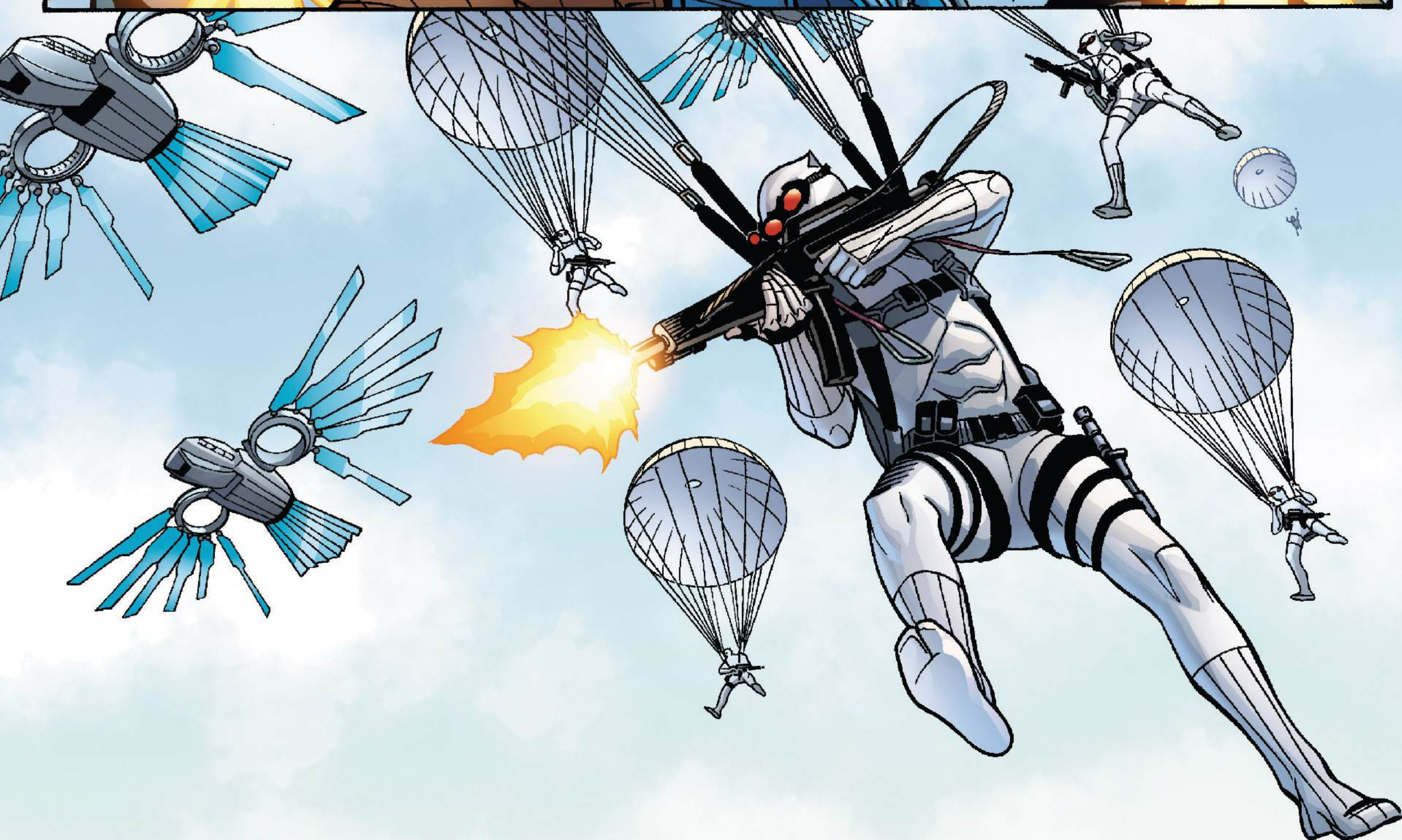
"LET US NOW SHOW
THEM HOW THE
ENSLAVED BECOMES
A LEGEND."

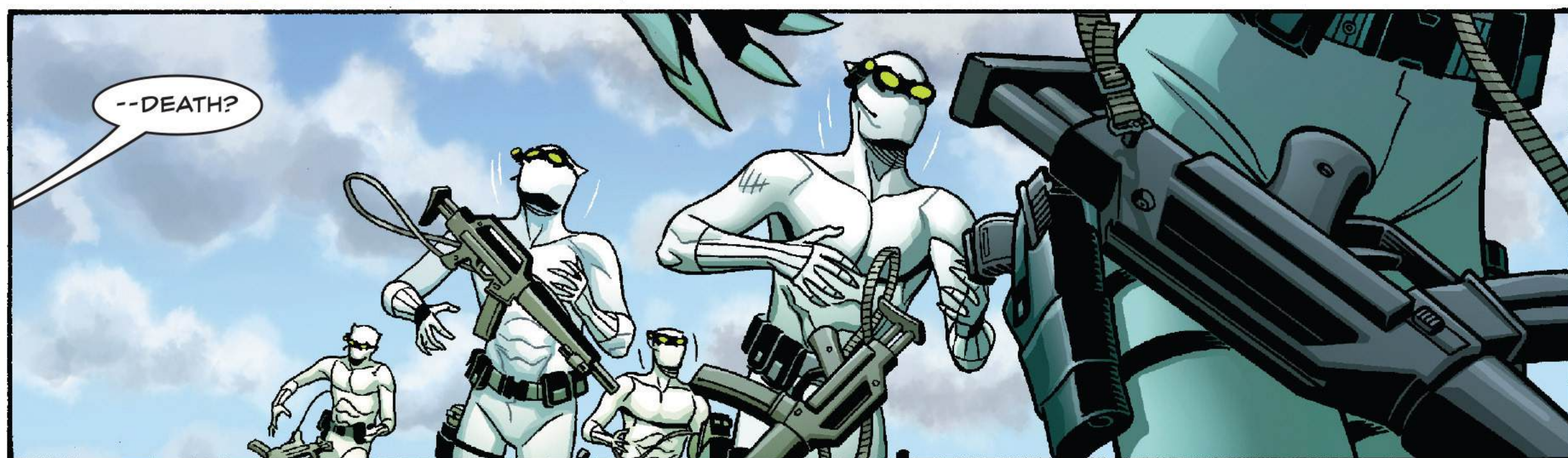
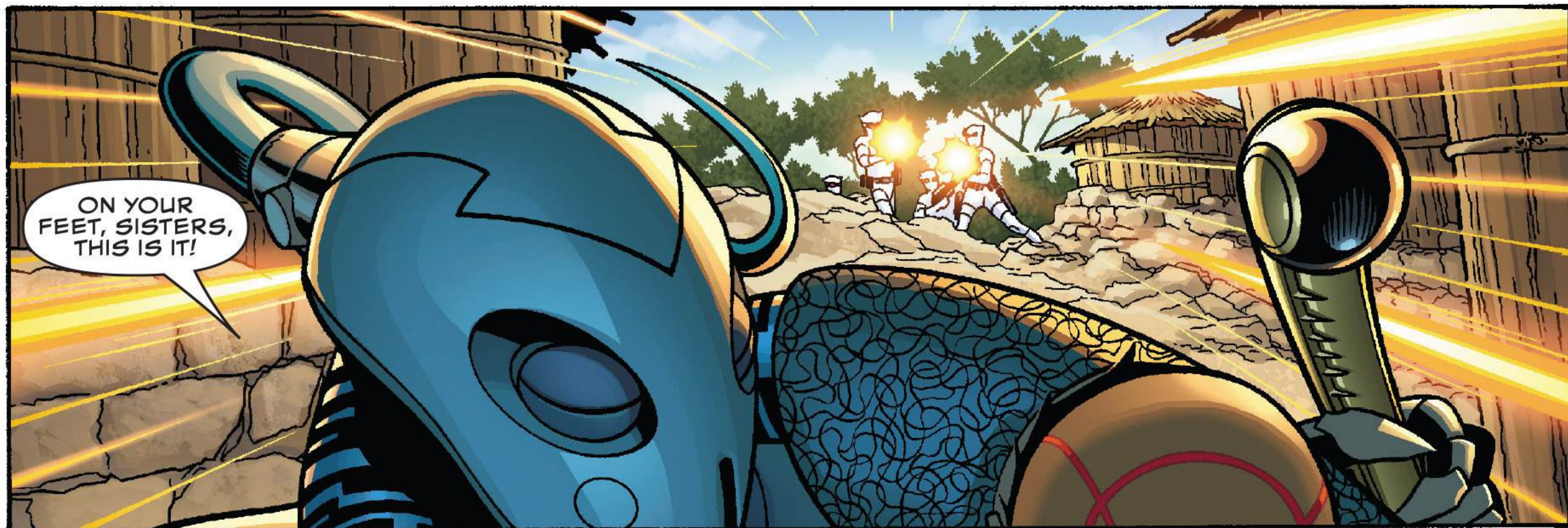


BOOM











WE DID NOT WANT IT. NEVER WOULD WE WILLINGLY WAR AGAINST OUR SISTERS, OUR DAUGHTERS, OUR MOTHERS.

I AM SO TIRED. I AM SO VERY TIRED.

HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN LOST?

HOW FAR HAVE THE DOGS OF WAR FALLEN, TO TAKE UP ARMS AGAINST THE MIGHTY AND ADORED?



I WOULD NOT BECOME TOO COMFORTABLE WITH THE CONFESSIONAL, MY SISTERS.

IT IS TRUE. I PULL THE LIGHT OF TRUTH FROM MEN, BUT MAN CAN ONLY SUFFER THE LIGHT FOR SO LONG.



YOU WERE LATE.

AND YET WE ARE HERE.

INDEED-- HERE FOR US. SO BY OUR WORD, WE WILL BE THERE FOR YOU.

AT LEAST UNTIL OUR KING HAS SEEN THE ERROR OF HIS WAYS, YES?



WE BEGAN IN HUNGER--HUNGER FOR OUR OWN FREEDOM. THEN THAT FREEDOM HUNGERED FOR THE FREEDOM OF OTHERS. THEN THAT GREATER FREEDOM HUNGERED FOR A HOME.

"IN TIMES OF FAMINE WE MADE MORE FOOD. FOOD MADE MORE PEOPLE..."

YES, THE SAGA OF LIFE--"NEED BREEDS MORE NEED." AND NOW AT EVERY STEP, SOME NEW NEED FINDS US.

TETU, MY BROTHER, LET US SETTLE ON A WORLD WITHOUT KINGS. JUST FOR TODAY, IS THAT DREAM NOT GRAND ENOUGH?



INDEED IT IS. DREAMS WITHOUT FOUNDATION ARE DESTINED TO REMAIN AS SUCH.

LET IT BE ENOUGH, FOR THE MOMENT, THAT WE RESOLVE TO BE HERE FOR EACH OTHER. AND LET US SPEAK ONLY OF PRESENT THINGS.



FOR INSTANCE...

LEAVE THEM TO US. I PROMISED THEM NO MERCY. BUT, HAVING HEARD THE SOFTNESS IN THEIR HEARTS, I FIND IT HARD TO LOCATE THE HARD PLACE IN MY OWN.

UNDERSTANDABLE AND HUMANE. BUT SOME ADVICE, SISTER: NEVER LEAVE AN ENEMY BEHIND...



...INEVITABLY THEY MUST RISE TO STRIKE AT YOU AGAIN UNBURDENED BY YOUR NOTIONS OF HUMANITY.

NECROPOLIS



IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THE BOMBING TECH DID NOT COME OUT OF ANYTHING WAKANDAN IN ORIGIN.

AND THE SCENT OF ITS MASTER WAS ALL OVER IT. BUT THE USAGE OF VIBRANIUM IN THE DESIGN WAS...BIZARRE.



IT'S ZEKE, ALL RIGHT. IT COULD ONLY BE HIM. AND THE VIBRANIUM ADDITION ISN'T EVEN REALLY AN ADDITION.

HE'S SCREWING WITH YOU, T'CHALLA. I MEAN, I HAVE EGO, BUT AT LEAST MY BRILLIANCE EXCEEDS MY EGO.

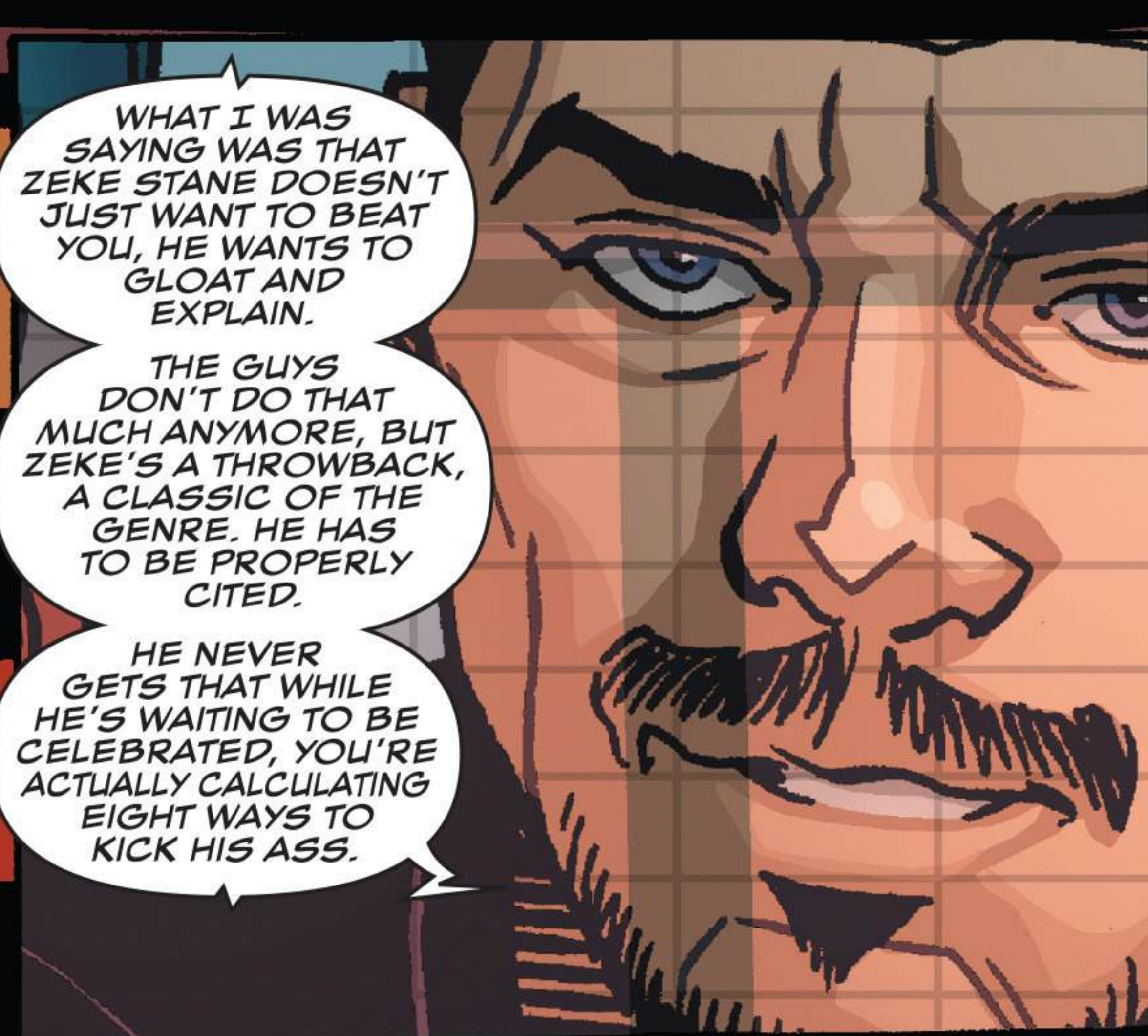
I'M HAPPY YOU THINK SO.

I HEARD THAT.

YES, BECAUSE I SAID IT.

I KNOW. NEXT TIME, IT'D HELP IF YOU AT LEAST TRIED TO SAY IT UNDER YOUR BREATH.

TONY, WE'RE GETTING DISTRACTED.



WHAT I WAS SAYING WAS THAT ZEKE STANE DOESN'T JUST WANT TO BEAT YOU, HE WANTS TO GLOAT AND EXPLAIN.

THE GUYS DON'T DO THAT MUCH ANYMORE, BUT ZEKE'S A THROWBACK, A CLASSIC OF THE GENRE. HE HAS TO BE PROPERLY CITED.

HE NEVER GETS THAT WHILE HE'S WAITING TO BE CELEBRATED, YOU'RE ACTUALLY CALCULATING EIGHT WAYS TO KICK HIS ASS.



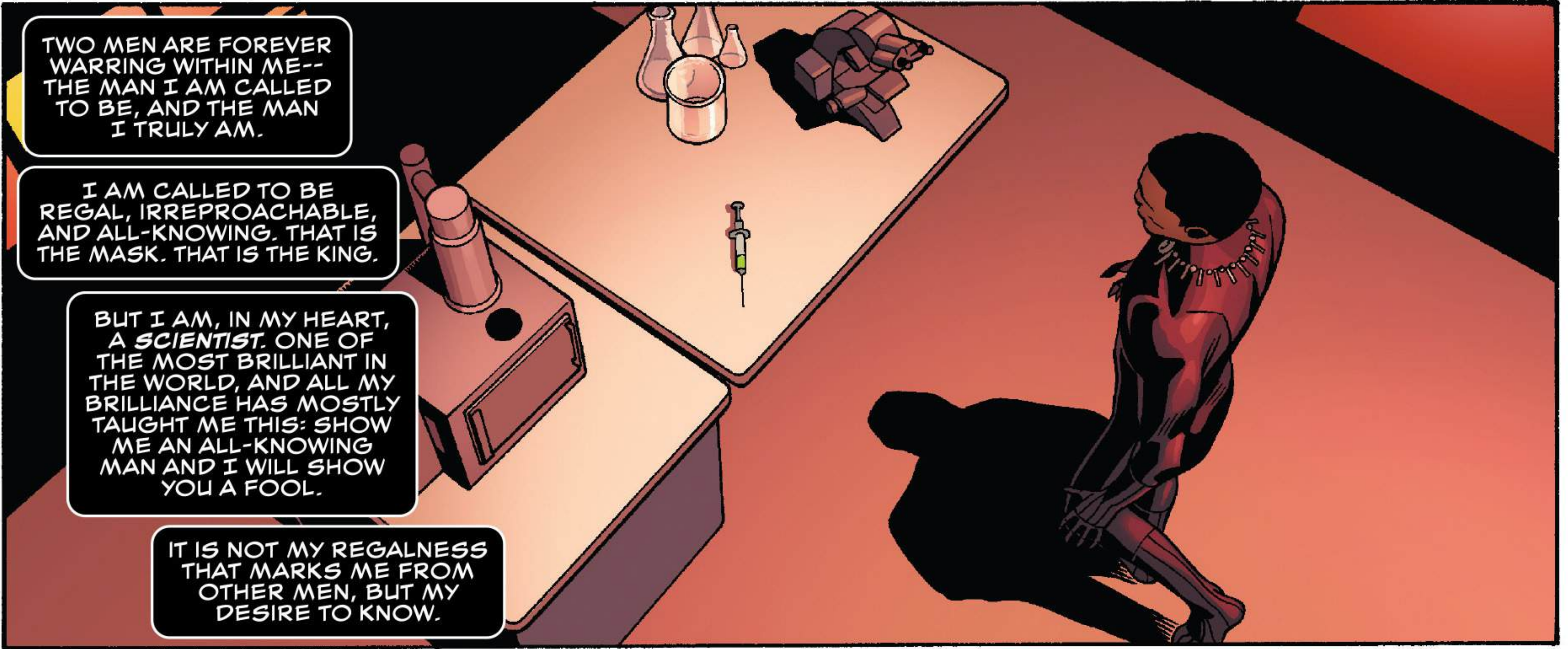
NOW THAT'S OLD-SCHOOL. JUST BE GLAD HE DIDN'T BRING HIS GIRLFRIEND.

NICE LEGS. KILLER SMILE. BEAR OF A MOTHER, THOUGH. I THINK SHE MIGHT BE DEAD. THERE WAS THIS ONE TIME...

GIRLFRIEND?

THANKS, TONY.

HEY, ANYTIME. CALL ME IF YOU GET IN A SPOT.



TWO MEN ARE FOREVER
WARRING WITHIN ME--
THE MAN I AM CALLED
TO BE, AND THE MAN
I TRULY AM.

I AM CALLED TO BE
REGAL, IRREPROACHABLE,
AND ALL-KNOWING. THAT IS
THE MASK. THAT IS THE KING.

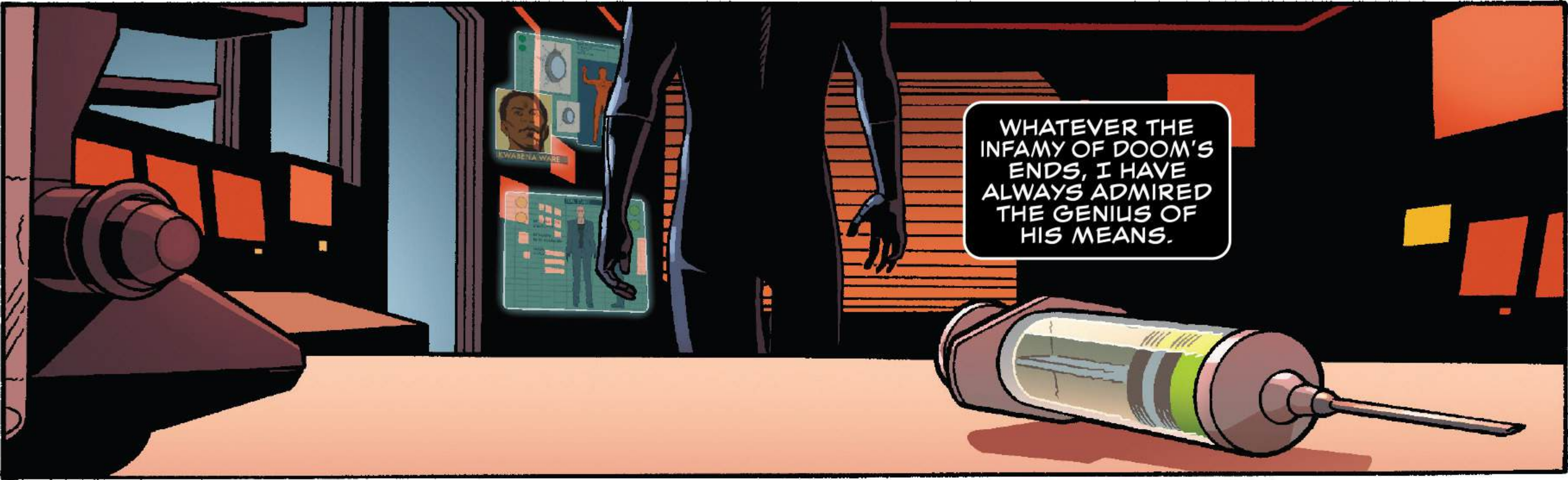
BUT I AM, IN MY HEART,
A *SCIENTIST*. ONE OF
THE MOST BRILLIANT IN
THE WORLD, AND ALL MY
BRILLIANCE HAS MOSTLY
TAUGHT ME THIS: SHOW
ME AN ALL-KNOWING
MAN AND I WILL SHOW
YOU A FOOL.

IT IS NOT MY REGALNESS
THAT MARKS ME FROM
OTHER MEN, BUT MY
DESIRE TO KNOW.



AND WHAT I KNOW MOST IS
INDISCRIMINATE STUDY. HIGH
AND LOW, HEROES AND
VILLAINS, I STUDY THEM ALL.

SOME TIME AGO, WHEN
DOCTOR DOOM SOUGHT
TO FOMENT A COUP IN
WAKANDA, HE USED
THESE NANITES TO
INFILTRATE EVERY
LEVEL OF SOCIETY.



WHATEVER THE
INFAMY OF DOOM'S
ENDS, I HAVE
ALWAYS ADMIRED
THE GENIUS OF
HIS MEANS.



PERHAPS THOSE
MEANS MIGHT BE
MADE TO SERVE
MORE FITTING
ENDS.

KWABENA WARE
TARGET
INTERSECT ACHIEVED
ZEKE STANE

THE DJALIA

AND SO WE ARRIVE AT THE BLACKBIRD'S SONG.

AS LONG AS YOU CAN SING AND KEEP UP WITH ME, MOTHER!

I GUESS WE WILL HAVE TO SEE, SHURI.

"WE BEGIN IN THE VILLAGE OF NRI--A PLACE NOW LOST TO YOUR WRITTEN HISTORIES, THOUGH NOT LOST TO THE GRIOT.

"THE PEOPLE OF NRI LIVED HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS, IN THE MOUNTAINS BEYOND THE CRYSTAL FOREST, AND ON WARM CLEAR DAYS, THEY GREW WINGS AND TOOK FLIGHT.

"BUT THE GRIOT DOES NOT SING SOLELY OF HOW THE PEOPLE OF NRI FLEW.

"SHE ALSO SINGS OF HOW THEY FELL.

"IFE WAS BUT A GIRL WHEN THE SLAVERS CARRIED HER OUT OF WAKANDA AND ACROSS THE BURNING SEA.

"THE CAPTURERS KEPT IFE AND THE OTHERS BLINDED, FOR THEY BELIEVED THAT, SHOULD IFE'S PEOPLE GLIMPSE THE SUN, THEY MIGHT RECALL THE POWER OF NRI.

"IFE WAS SOLD IN THE MARKET OF ERAM LIKE AN OX OR A BUSHEL OF WHEAT. SHE WAS BROUGHT INTO THE HOME OF AN OLD MAN.

"THE OLD MAN KEPT HER IN THE BASEMENT OF HIS HOME, WARY OF THE STORIES HE HAD HEARD OF THE GREAT POWER OF NRI."





THE OLD MAN WAS BLIND TO HIS FOLLY. A GIRL CAN BE MADE TO SERVE, BUT SHE CAN NEVER TRULY BE MADE INTO A SLAVE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, MOTHER? THE GIRL WAS CAPTURED, BOUND, AND SOLD. SURELY SHE WAS ENSLAVED.



PRECISELY, DAUGHTER. "ENSLAVED" IS WHAT THE PLUNDERER DOES TO A RIGHTEOUS WOMAN.

BUT "A SLAVE" IS A RIGHTEOUS WOMAN WHO HAS ACCEPTED THE PLUNDERER'S LAW.



AND NOT EVEN THE RIGHTEOUS HAS THE POWER TO GRANT SUCH ACCEPTANCE.

FREEDOM CAN NO MORE BE GIVEN AWAY BY MORTALS THAN THE SEAS BE CRAFTED BY MORTAL HANDS.



FOR EVEN AS A WOMAN PLUNGES INTO BONDAGE, STILL SHE HUNGERS FOR, THIRSTS AFTER, CRAVES THE LIGHT.



"INDEED, THE NEED IS SO STRONG THAT VERY OFTEN, THE PLUNDERER HIMSELF, HUNGERS ON BEHALF OF THE RIGHTEOUS."



"THE OLD MAN DREAMED THAT IFE MIGHT SOMEDAY LOVE HIM. HE INDUCED HER TO LIE WITH HIM. TO BEAR HIM CHILDREN."



"YEARS PASSED. AND TO THE OLD MAN IT SEEMED THAT IFE WAS TRULY A HAPPY WIFE."



"PERHAPS, SOMETIMES, EVEN IFE TOLD HERSELF THIS. PERHAPS IFE SOMETIMES FORGOT THE SUN."



IT DOES NOT MATTER, BECAUSE THE SUN NEVER FORGOT IFE.

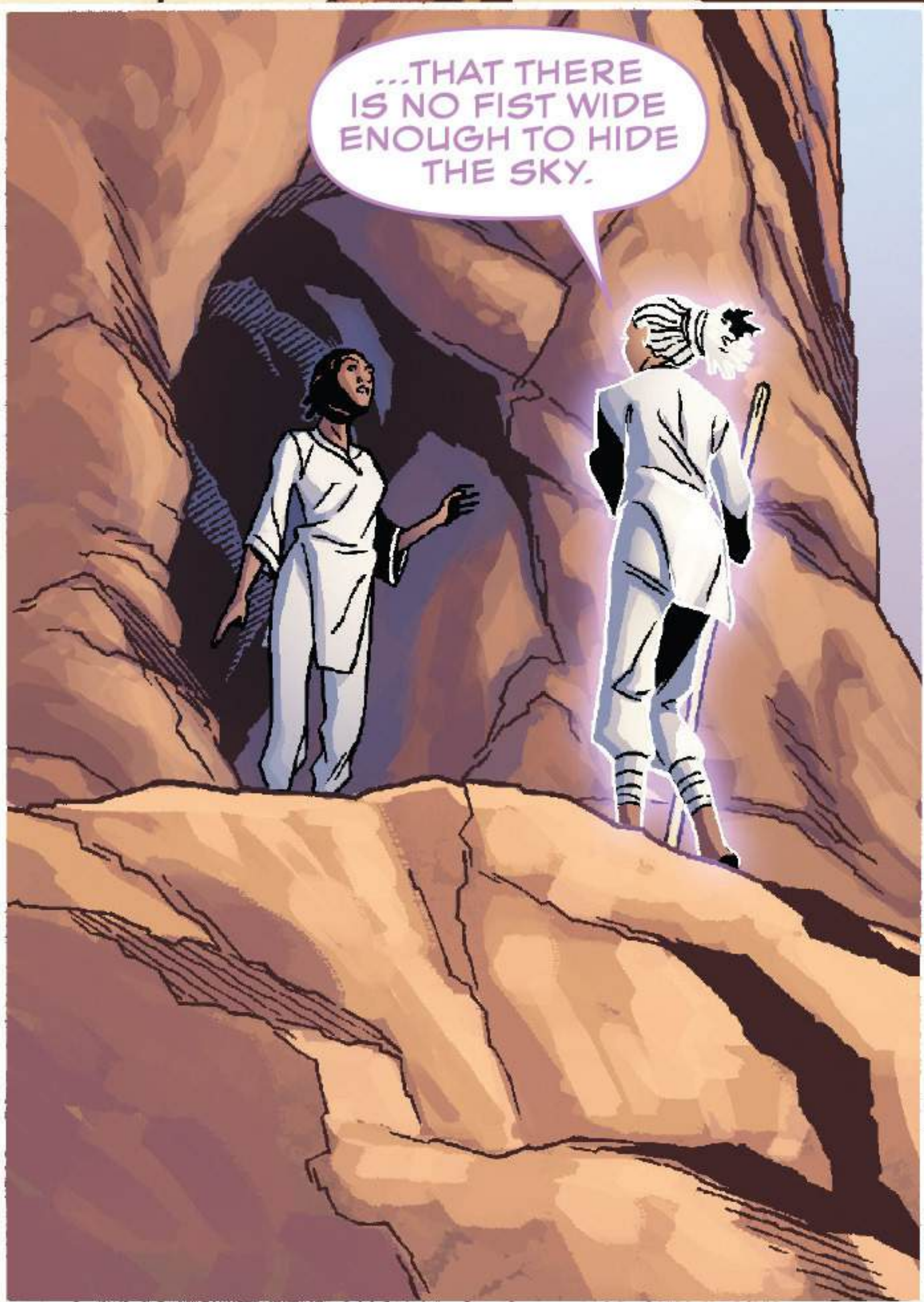


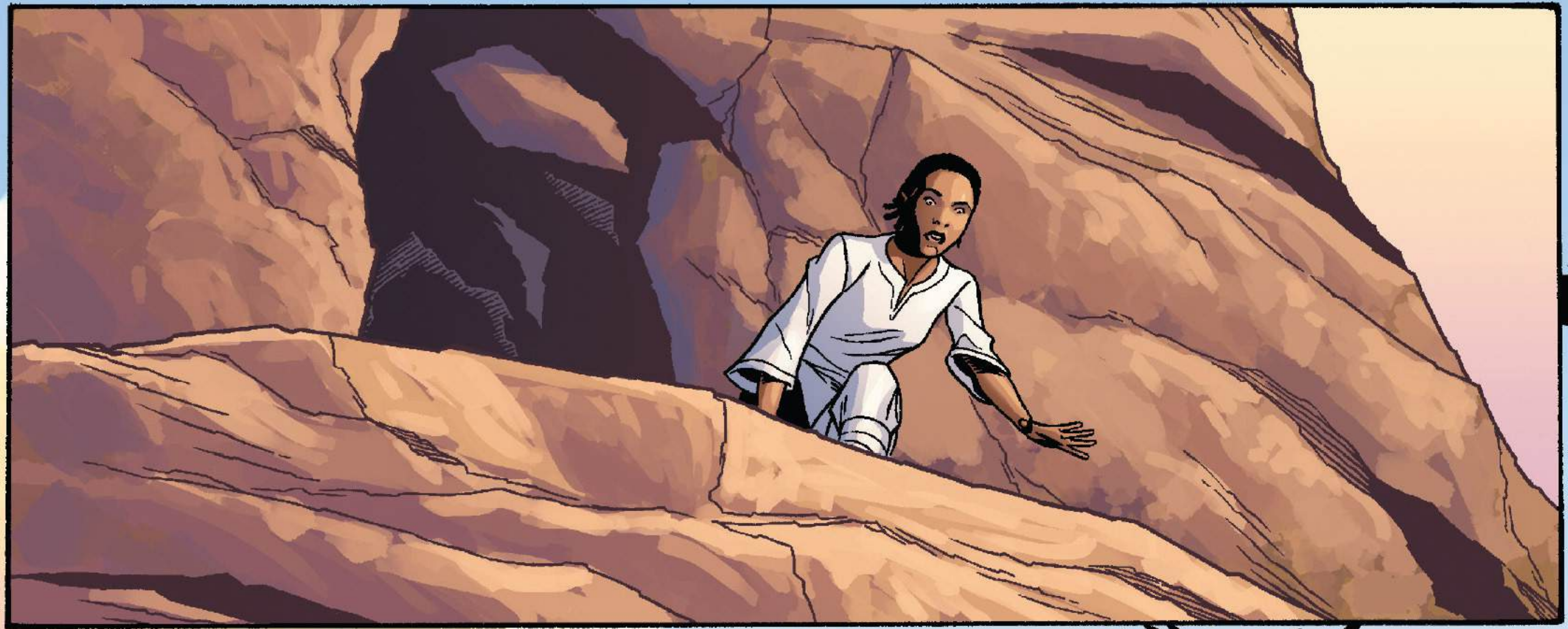
"OR PERHAPS HE DID NOT GROW LAX.

"PERHAPS HE DID NOT FORGET.

"PERHAPS HE SIMPLY HUNGRED, THIRSTED, CRAVED.

"PERHAPS, MY CHILD, HE SIMPLY KNEW...





BASE OF THE PEOPLE

ONCE, I TOLD SOME FRIENDS THAT I ONLY ASSOCIATED WITH THEM BECAUSE MY ROYAL DUTIES DEMANDED IT.

THERE WAS SOME TRUTH TO THIS.

MY FRIENDS WERE BEINGS OF GREAT POWER. ENOUGH POWER, PERHAPS, TO THREATEN WAKANDA.

A KING IS NEVER IN NEED OF MORE FRIENDS SO MUCH AS MORE EYES. WHAT BETTER EYES TO JUDGE THAN MY OWN?

DECEPTION IS PARCEL TO RULING. I TELL MY ENEMIES, MY ALLIES, AND MY SUBJECTS WHAT THEY NEED TO KNOW, WHEN I FEEL THEY NEED TO KNOW IT.

T'Challa: Be ready.
Rhodan: We are.

THIS PHILOSOPHY TENDS TO HAVE SOME EFFECTS.

A MAN CANNOT TAKE IT AS HIS BUSINESS TO REPEATEDLY DECEIVE THE WORLD, WITHOUT SOMEHOW DECEIVING HIMSELF.

LATELY I HAVE BEEN FEELING CLEARER. I CAN NOW ADMIT THAT I HAD IT BACKWARDS.

MY FRIENDS, THE AVENGERS, I DID NOT JOIN THEM TO SPY FOR MY COUNTRY. I SPIED FOR MY COUNTRY IN ORDER TO JOIN THE AVENGERS.



IT WAS THE SCIENTIST IN ME,
YOU SEE. IT WAS THE DESIRE
TO SEE ALL THE EVERYTHING
BEYOND THE GOLDEN CITY.



TO GO BEYOND
THE POMP, THE
CEREMONY.

TO ESCAPE THE
SYNCOPHANTS,
THE PROVINCIAL.

THE HUNGER
TO KNOW.

IT IS MY GREATEST
WEAPON. BUT THE MASK
CONCEALS THIS. AND A LIE
MEANT FOR MY PEOPLE
ENSNARES EVERYONE.

EVEN MY
ENEMIES.



THEY THINK THEY
FINALLY HAVE ME--
A KING REDUCED
TO CHAINS.



BUT I KNOW
A SECRET
THAT I CANNOT
YET TELL.

FIRST I MUST PUT
VILLAINOUS MEANS
TO PROPER ENDS...



...AND LET THEM FEED MY HUNGER TO KNOW.

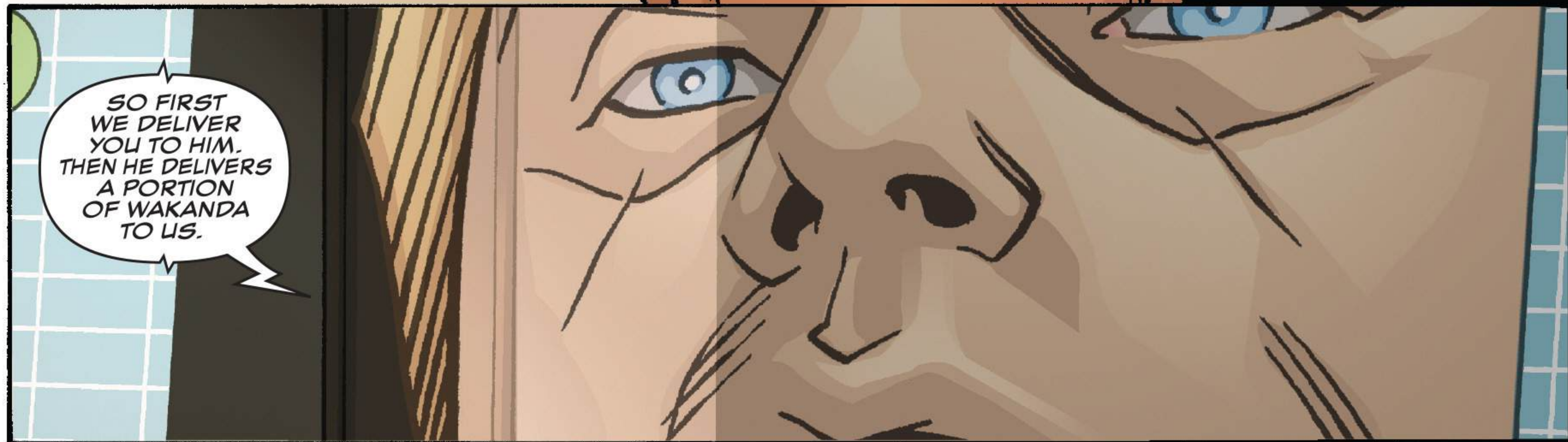
--AND HE DIDN'T JUST SELL YOU OUT, OH MIGHTY KING. HE SOLD YOUR WHOLE COUNTRY OUT.



OH YEAH, YOUR FRIEND **TETU** PUT OUT A CONTRACT ON YOU. INVITED ANY MUTANT, ALIEN, OR CYBORG TO TAKE OUT THE KING. IN RETURN FOR A SHARE IN THE FUTURE COUNTRY.



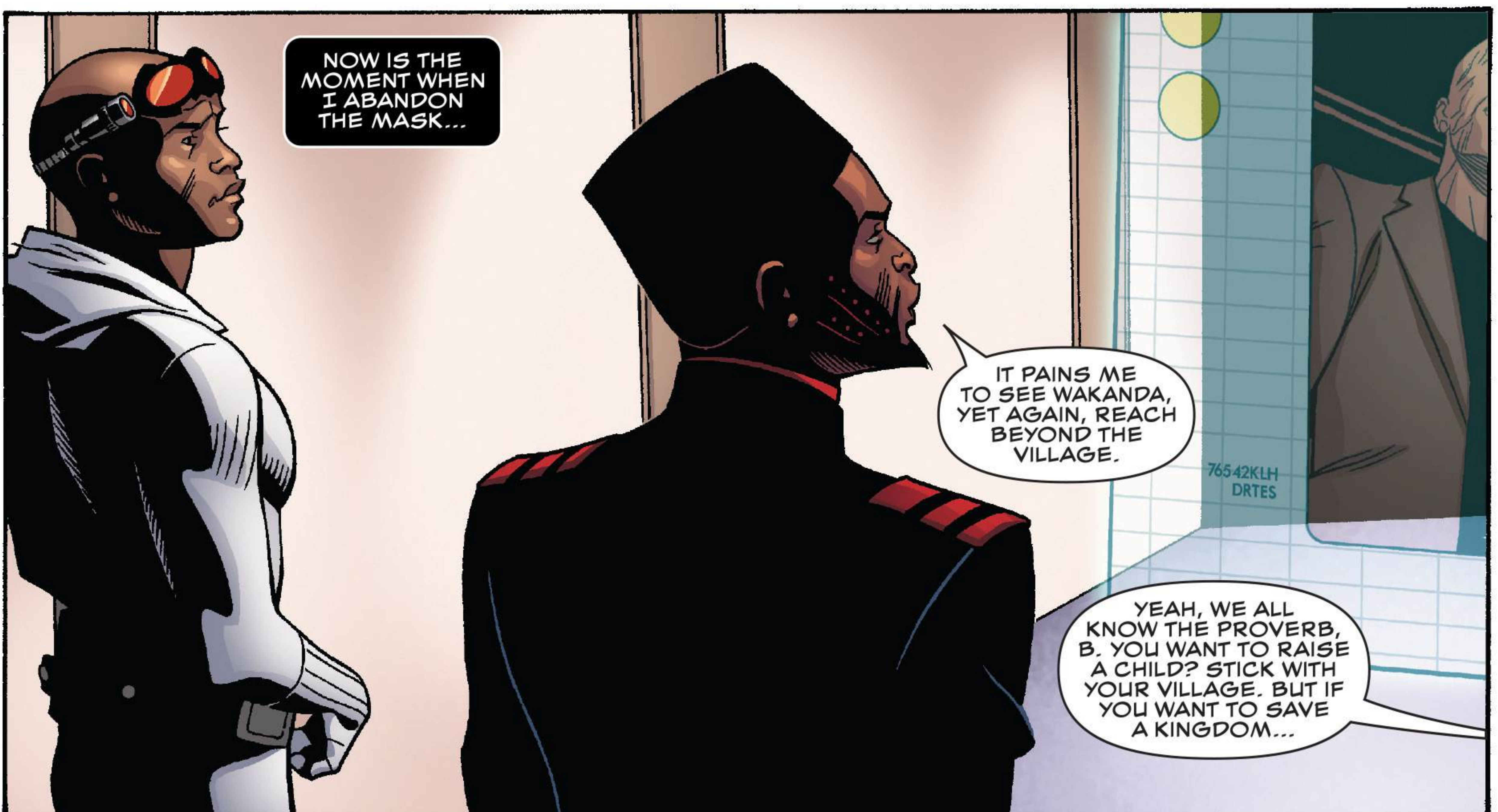
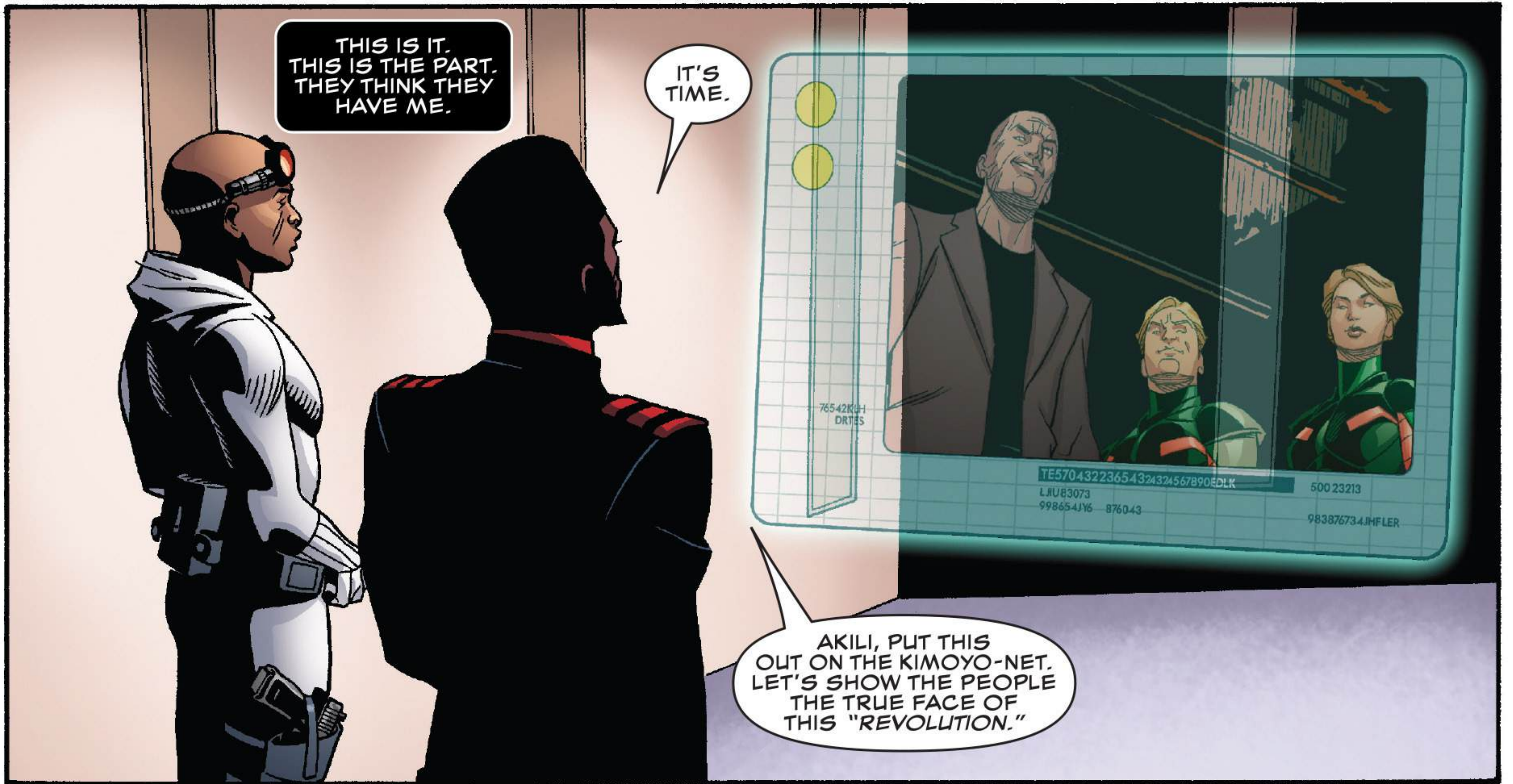
NATURALLY, THE **FENRIS TWINS** WERE INTERESTED, TOO.



SO FIRST WE DELIVER YOU TO HIM. THEN HE DELIVERS A PORTION OF WAKANDA TO US.



AND THAT'S HOW IT ENDS, YO. WE GET A FIELD FOR OUR DREAMS. YOU GET TO SLEEP A LONG TIME. OR WHATEVER. I COULDN'T CARE LESS.



...AND SHOW
THEM THE
SCIENCE.

...CALL IN
THE CREW



TO BE CONTINUED

DOWN WITH THE KING



Send your emails to mheroes@marvel.com, and mark them "okay to print."

How's that for a first look at The Crew 2016 Edition? Hopefully you've read Priest and Joe Bennett's short-lived, but long-remembered team book THE CREW. If not, it's never too late!

Hey Mr. Coates,

Very sneaky plugging of some heavy literature on page 5 of issue #4, in the panel where Changamire is contrasted against the many books of his office library. Among them, I counted Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*, Eric Williams' *Capitalism and Slavery*, Frantz Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth*, Steven Hahn's *A Nation Under Our Feet* (I guess I shouldn't have been surprised), and James Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time*, lots of radical and professorial material that I've genuinely seen on the shelves of many a faculty. One book I was a little surprised to see there was Barbara Tuchman's *A Distant Mirror*. What was your methodology for composing Changamire's bookshelf? What do these books mean to him and what do they mean to you? Are there any others you thought about including?

Long Live Wakanda,
Eli Boonin-Vail

Hi Eli. These are books that either inspired much of what I was doing in this run (A Distant Mirror), books that I thought Changamire would be reading (Wretched of the Earth), and books I was reading while writing myself (Americanah.) Also, these are just important books! If I can urge folks to pick them up, all the better. Long Live Wakanda!

Hi there! I just want to say, I am really loving your BLACK PANTHER series! I'm 12 years old, and a friend of mine showed me an ad for the series and now I'm completely hooked! I gotta say, I was a little lost by the first issue but when I read the second and third (and re-read them), it all came together. I love the different story lines that are going on here. I first learned of the Black Panther in a *Fantastic Four* comic--he seemed very interesting and all the strife in Wakanda really brings out the cool side of him. It reminds me of a line from *CIVIL WAR*: "An empire toppled by its enemies can rise again, but one that crumbles from within--that's dead." Epic.

Reading your letters page, I can see how much this comic brings different people together and I felt that I had to write in to let you know what a good job you're doing with this character. Keep up the awesome work!

Khalid

Hi Khalid! So happy to hear from you. This is the book I wanted to read when I was your age, and I guess the one I still want to read today. Kids like you are the future of comic books. Glad you're sticking with it.

Ta-Nehisi,

At 40+ I am a complete newbie to the comics world and likely would never have picked one up if it were not for you. We were at Howard University at the same time and I've been following your career for a few years now after reading your books. I thought I would love the idea of Black Panther comic books and sharing them with my kids. Seems the kids are still too small for the story lines but I cannot wait to share this powerful imagery, wonderful depictions of black/African history, and very heterogeneous people and societies. I do not have to tell you how important it is for children and people in general to see images that are positive and relatable.

I know this is fiction but now on #3 I see ancient Africa, developing countries, advanced societies, technology, relevant conflicts, and even characters that are likely based on real people. Keep up the good work. Aw, HU!

Carl Middleton, MD, MPH

What up, Bison! One of the great things about helming BLACK PANTHER was the chance to take all of that study of African history at Howard and make it work in a fictional world. Obviously, I think having heroes from the continent depicted in all their complexity is essential. The kids will be able to read it soon enough. Gotta teach the youth, you know!

Hello team,

First, excellent, excellent, excellent job on the current BLACK PANTHER! Writing and artwork is absolutely phenomenal. I've read and re-read the first four issues...

I am from Monrovia, Liberia (West Africa), and I must say that I am proud to have an African representation of such a character! Keep up the great work!

Just a few points/thoughts and I'm out... I have always wanted to see (in comic book illustration) some in depth background on Bashenga and Azzari the Wise, as well as other former Black Panthers.

Would also like to see/read how Bashenga initially linked with the Panther God Bast and if there other female Black Panther leaders prior to Suri. Thank you for your time.

Hail to the King!
Francis Horton

Hi Francis. Glad you're tuning in. Yes, we have plans for the entire lineage of Black Panthers and the lineage of the country at large. Some of this will be in the main book, but also look for it in the upcoming book WORLD OF WAKANDA.

Okay, folks. Thanks for tuning in. See you in a month, when T'Challa unveils the 125th way to kick some ass. -T



COATES ● SPROUSE ● STORY ● MARTIN

BLACK PANTHER[®]

#1

"THE
CREW"
STARTS

NOW!

#7



MARVEL

BLACK PANTHER

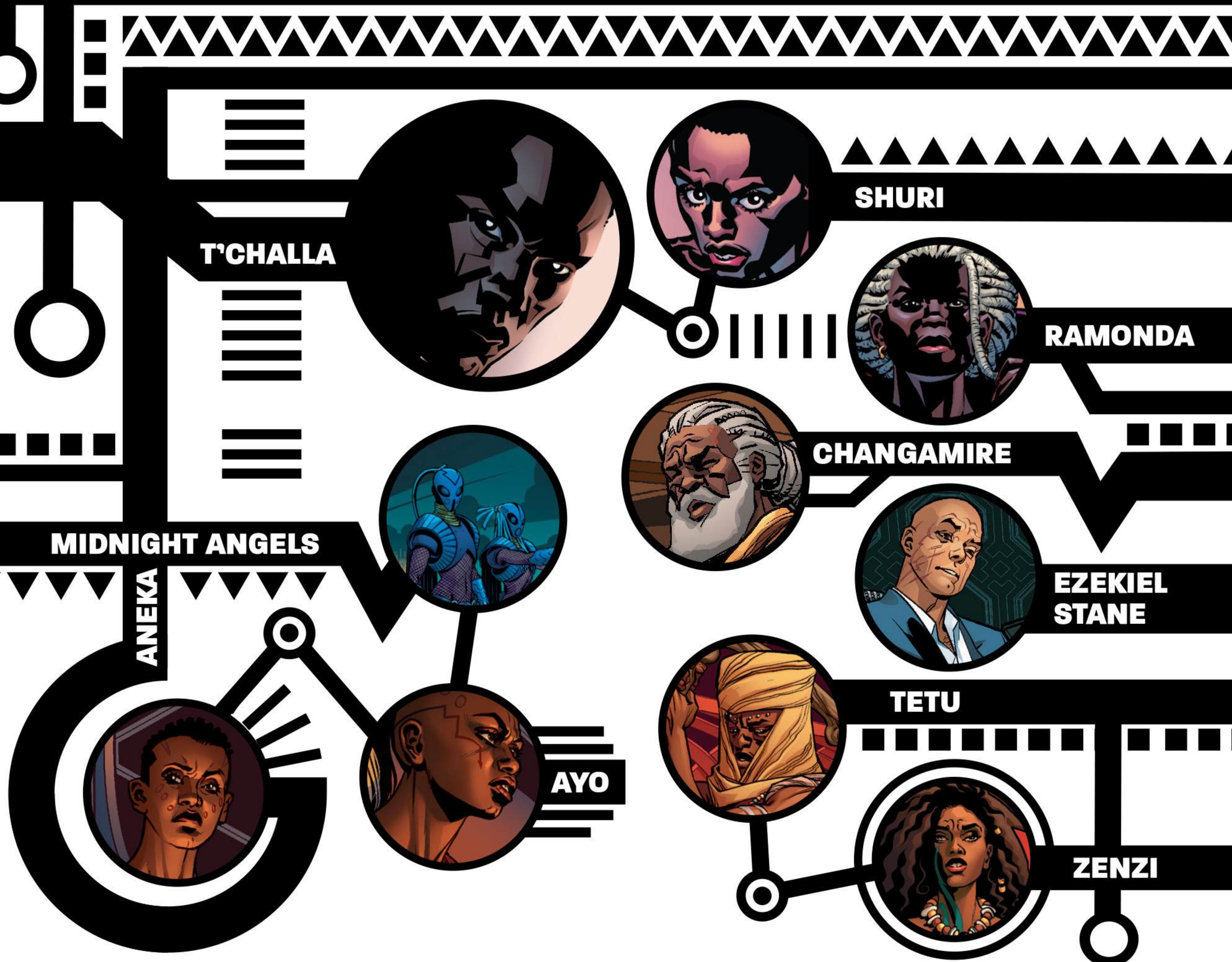
AFTER A TERRORIST BOMBING, **KING T'CHALLA**, A.K.A. THE BLACK PANTHER, BEGAN A RELENTLESS COUNTERATTACK ON HIS MANY ENEMIES.

WAKANDA'S SECRET POLICE, THE **HATUT ZERAZE**, INVADED THE JABARI-LANDS TO TAKE ON THE ROGUE **DORA MILAJE** WHO HAD RECENTLY SEIZED CONTROL OF THAT AREA. ELSEWHERE, T'CHALLA ALLOWED HIMSELF TO BE CAPTURED BY **EZEKIEL STANE**, AN ARMS DEALER WHO HAD BEEN SUPPLYING TECHNOLOGY TO THE REBELS STAGING THE ATTEMPTED COUP OF WAKANDA.

USING BLOOD-BORNE NANITE CAMERA TECHNOLOGY PIONEERED BY DOCTOR DOOM, T'CHALLA BROADCAST STANE'S PACT WITH THE REBEL LEADER **TETU**, UNDERMINING THEIR POLITICAL POSITION WITH THE CITIZENS OF WAKANDA. WITH THE TRUTH REVEALED, T'CHALLA CALLS IN **STORM**, **LUKE CAGE**, **MISTY KNIGHT**, AND **MANIFOLD... A.K.A. THE CREW**.

MEANWHILE, **SHURI** TRAVELS THE PLANE OF COLLECTIVE WAKANDAN MEMORY KNOWN AS THE DJALIA, TRAINING WITH AND LEARNING FROM A GRIOT IN THE FORM OF HER MOTHER.

Discover more about the Black Panther and Wakanda with the **BLACK PANTHER: A NATION UNDER OUR FEET** spotlight videos at marvel.com/PantherNation



A NATION UNDER OUR FEET

part 7

writer **TA-NEHISI COATES**

pencils/layouts **CHRIS SPROUSE**

inks/finishes **KARL STORY** color artist **LAURA MARTIN**

letterer **VC's JOE SABINO**
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ESAD RIBIC; MARGUERITE SAUVAGE;

BILL SIENKIEWICZ; LEINIL YU & JASON KEITH;

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publisher **DAN BUCKLEY** executive producer **ALAN FINE**

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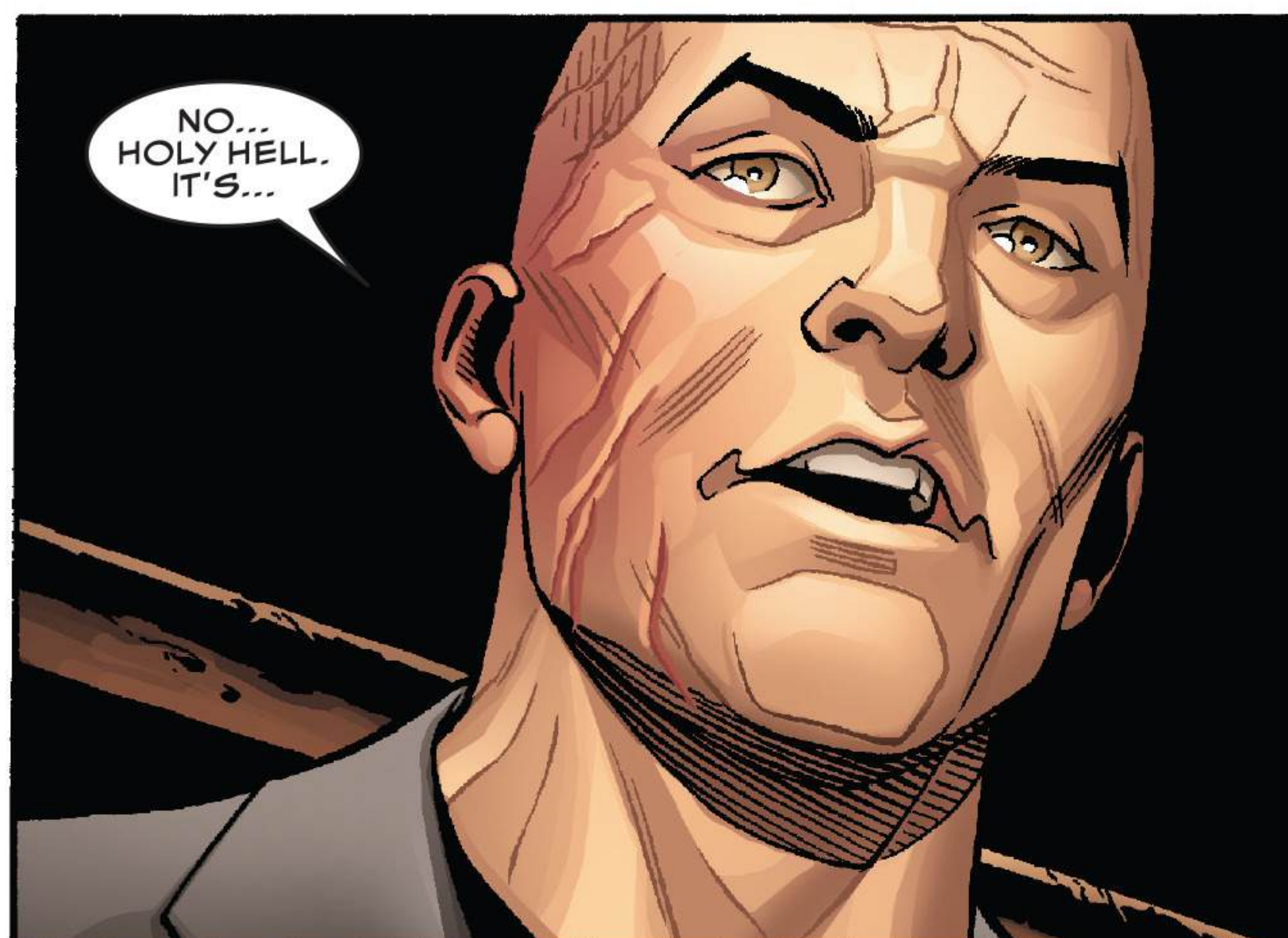
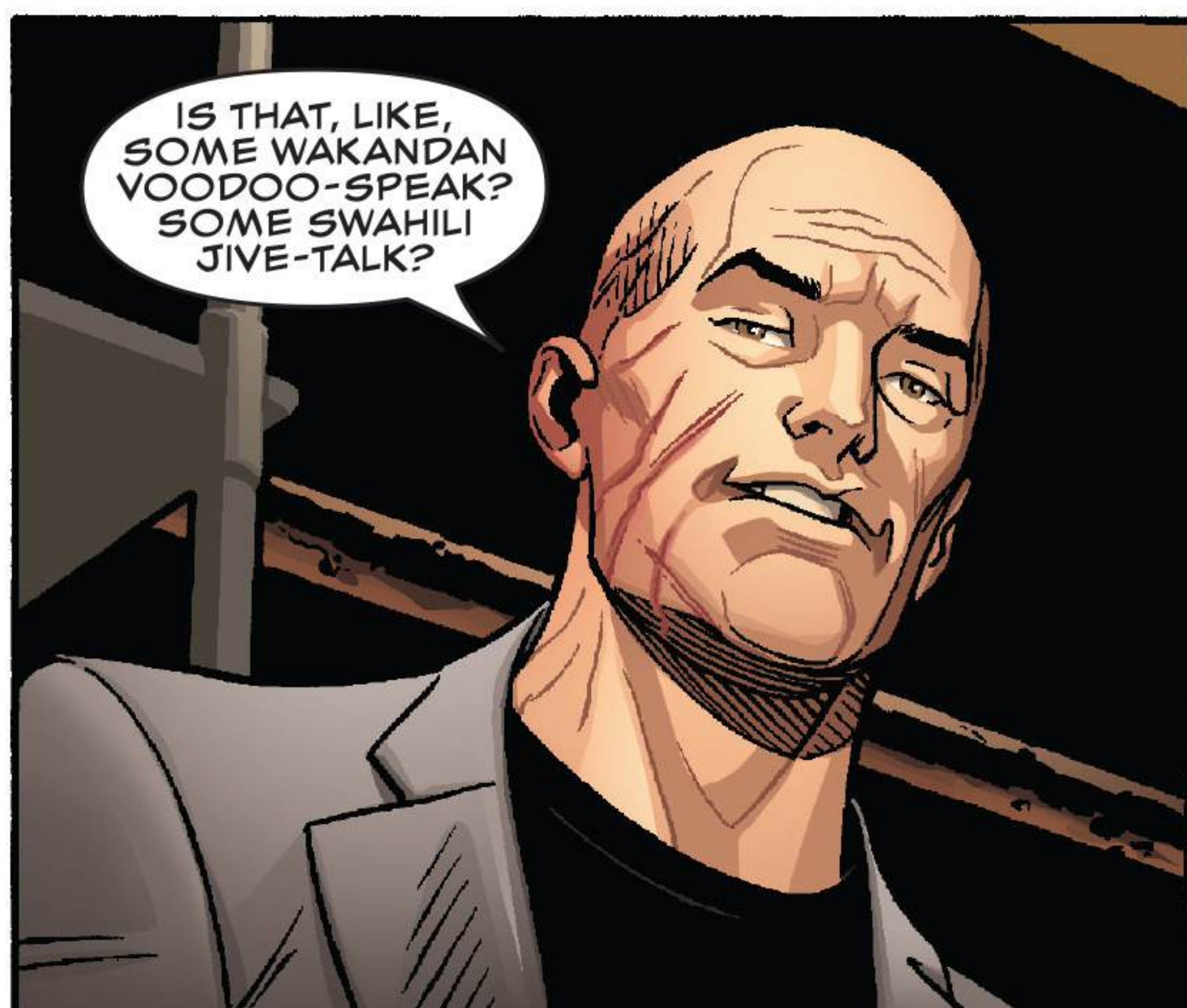
**BLACK
PANTHER** created by
**STAN LEE &
JACK KIRBY**

BASE OF THE PEOPLE

Y'KNOW, T'CHALLA, I ALWAYS THOUGHT I'D MAKE A GREAT KING. I MEAN, I'VE GOT ALL THE RIGHT ATTRIBUTES.

WISE BEYOND MY YEARS.

A REGAL MIEN.





INCOMING!



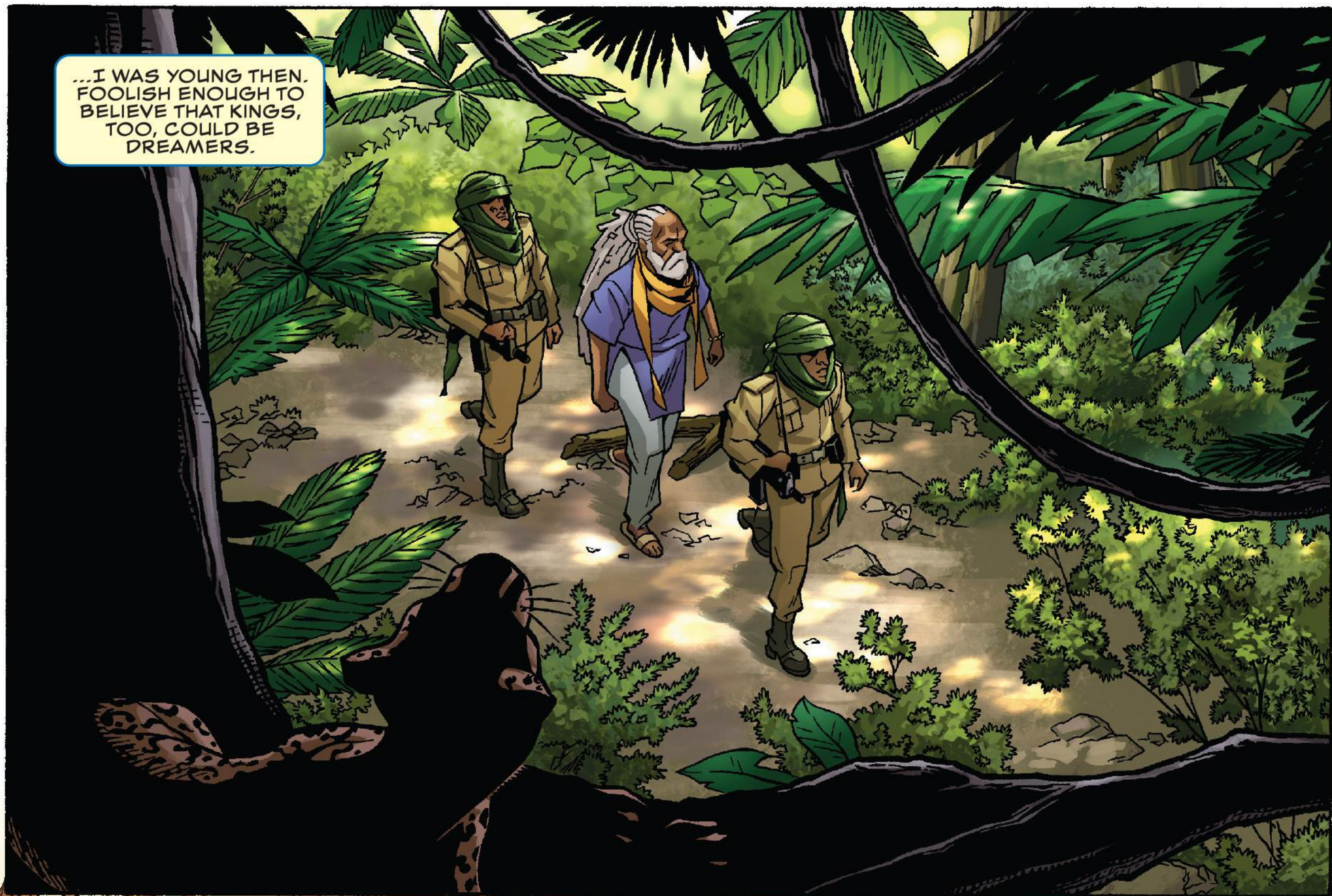


WHY, ANDREA, IT'S THE KAFFIR QUEEN!





...I WAS YOUNG THEN.
FOOLISH ENOUGH TO
BELIEVE THAT KINGS,
TOO, COULD BE
DREAMERS.



I THOUGHT THAT THE
GREAT BOUNTY OF MY
COUNTRY CALLED IT TO
AN EVEN GREATER
MORALITY.

EXILED, I WAS. AND
FOR DECADES AFTER, I
WATCHED AS MY BELOVED
COUNTRY PLEDGED ITSELF
TO THE SWORD.

COULD IT HAVE BEEN
ANY OTHER WAY? I
WAS A HERETIC
BEFORE MY OWN
GOSPEL.

I SOUGHT A WORLD WHERE
PEASANTS AND KINGS WERE
AS BROTHERS. BUT WHAT NEW
WORLD WAS EVER MADE
WITHOUT THE SWORD?

NOW I AM OLD, AND I
FEAR THAT SOME YOUNG
DREAMER SHALL RESOLVE
MY CONTRADICTION, AND
COMMIT TO THAT WHICH IS
BOTH TERRIBLE AND PLAIN.



ON THAT DAY THE
ERA OF THEORY
WILL HAVE PASSED.

ALL THE
DREAMERS
WILL BE DEAD.





AND THE ERA OF
ZEALOTS SHALL
BE UPON US.



BABA, I
CALLED YOU SO
THAT YOU MIGHT
SEE THE WORLD
YOUR WISDOM
HAS MADE.



IT
WAS YOU WHO
LIBERATED ME,
WHO FORCED
ME TO SEE.

YOU NEVER
NEEDED ANY
FORCING, TETU. I
ALWAYS TRUSTED
THAT YOU WOULD
SEE WHAT YOU
NEEDED.

AND
DO YOU
NOW TRUST THAT
I SEE WHAT
WAKANDA
NEEDS?



YES.



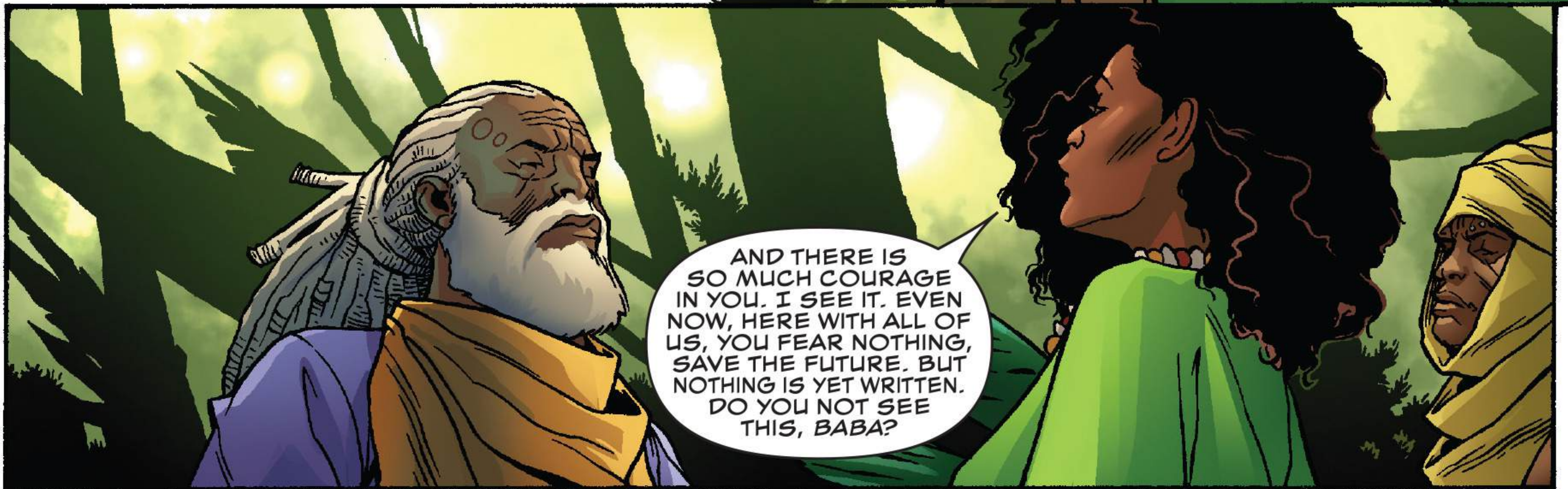
TETU, MY SON,
I AM SORRY. I
WAS HARD WITH YOU
WHEN WE LAST MET.
I SPOKE FROM MY
VAIN ANGER, NOT
FROM LOVE.

I KNOW WHY
YOU DO WHAT
YOU DO. IT IS THE
BRUTALITY OF THOSE
WHO LORD OVER US
WHICH COMPELS
YOU.



ONCE, I
BELIEVED WE
COULD TALK TO
THESE MEN. I
BELIEVED WE
COULD MAKE
THEM SEE.

AND
WHAT DO YOU
BELIEVE NOW,
BABA?











ARE YOU HURT, ORORO?

I AM FINE, T'CHALLA. THANK YOU.



HEY, I GOT PUNCHED, LIKE, 50 TIMES.

ARE YOU THE FORMER QUEEN OF WAKANDA?

I'M ROYALTY UPTOWN, BABY.



THANK YOU, EDEN.

THANK YOU, LUKE.

THANK YOU, MISTY.



AND THANK YOU, KWABENA, MY SON.

THE DJALIA



MOTHER, I TOO HAVE STORIES.

OF COURSE YOU DO, SHURI. BUT YOU DO NOT YET KNOW THEIR MEANING, DO YOU?

NO, I DO NOT. THEY ARE THE STORIES OF MY YOUTH. TALES TOLD BY OLD WOMEN IN THE COUNTRY, MOCKED BY THE PEOPLE IN THE GOLDEN CITY.



BUT YOU NOW KNOW THAT MEN MOCK THAT WHICH THEY DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

OR WORSE-- THEY MOCK THAT WHICH THEY HAVE FORGOTTEN.



THEN PERHAPS YOU SHALL MAKE THEM REMEMBER.

I WOULD LIKE TO.

SOON, DAUGHTER. SOON WILL IT COME. BUT FIRST PERHAPS YOU MIGHT SHARE ONE OF THE OLD WOMEN'S STORIES. DO YOU REMEMBER?



YES. I... I REMEMBER... I REMEMBER THE BOY.

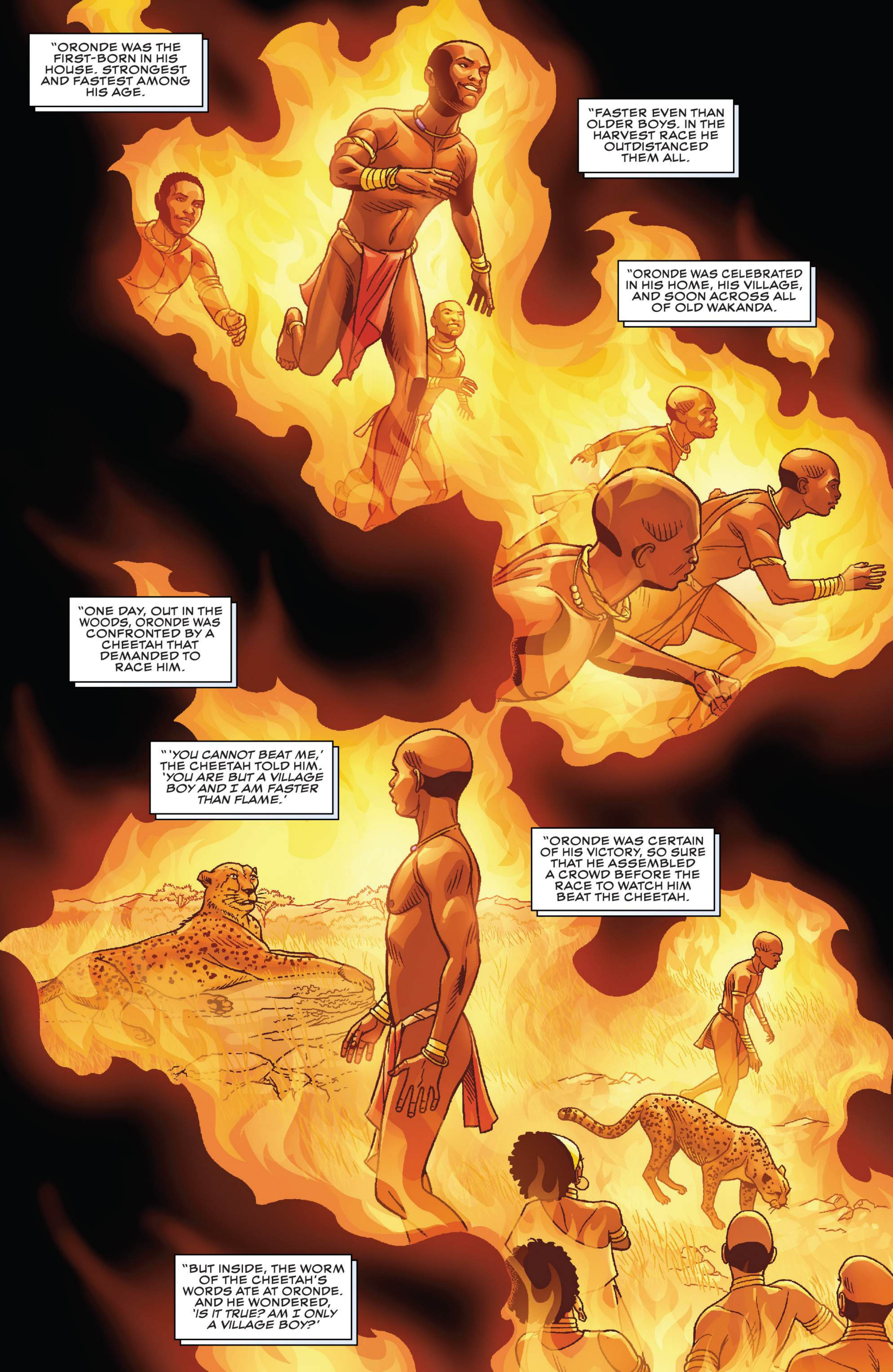
AND WHAT WAS THE BOY'S NAME?



HIS NAME WAS ORONDE--SON OF YAA, DAUGHTER OF AKOSUA. FIRST BORN TO THE MIGHTY HOUSE OF ADOFO, WHO THRONED FROM ALKAMA IN THE BOUNTIFUL YEARS.

AND WHAT OF THIS SON OF YAA, THIS FREEHOLDER OF ADOFO? THIS "ORONDE." WHY SPEAK OF HIM NOW?

BECAUSE HE KNEW SOMETHING WHICH WE HAVE FORGOTTEN, SOMETHING WHICH I SHALL RECOVER AND BRING BACK HOME...



"ORONDE WAS THE FIRST-BORN IN HIS HOUSE. STRONGEST AND FASTEST AMONG HIS AGE."

"FASTER EVEN THAN OLDER BOYS. IN THE HARVEST RACE HE OUTDISTANCED THEM ALL."

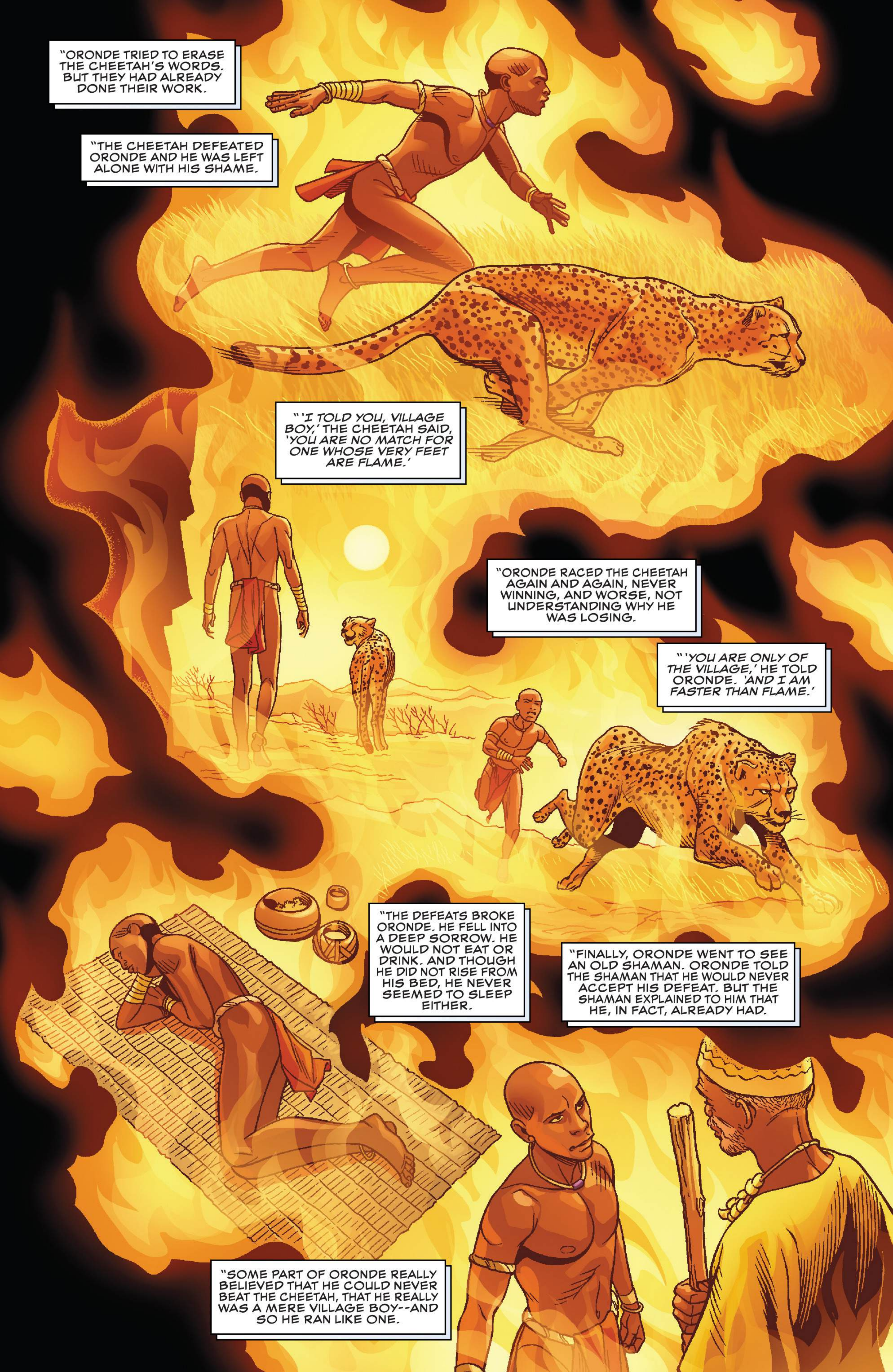
"ORONDE WAS CELEBRATED IN HIS HOME, HIS VILLAGE, AND SOON ACROSS ALL OF OLD WAKANDA."

"ONE DAY, OUT IN THE WOODS, ORONDE WAS CONFRONTED BY A CHEETAH THAT DEMANDED TO RACE HIM."

"'YOU CANNOT BEAT ME,' THE CHEETAH TOLD HIM. 'YOU ARE BUT A VILLAGE BOY AND I AM FASTER THAN FLAME.'"

"ORONDE WAS CERTAIN OF HIS VICTORY, SO SURE THAT HE ASSEMBLED A CROWD BEFORE THE RACE TO WATCH HIM BEAT THE CHEETAH."

"BUT INSIDE, THE WORM OF THE CHEETAH'S WORDS ATE AT ORONDE. AND HE WONDERED, 'IS IT TRUE? AM I ONLY A VILLAGE BOY?'"



"ORONDE TRIED TO ERASE THE CHEETAH'S WORDS. BUT THEY HAD ALREADY DONE THEIR WORK."

"THE CHEETAH DEFEATED ORONDE AND HE WAS LEFT ALONE WITH HIS SHAME."

"'I TOLD YOU, VILLAGE BOY,' THE CHEETAH SAID, 'YOU ARE NO MATCH FOR ONE WHOSE VERY FEET ARE FLAME.'"

"ORONDE RACED THE CHEETAH AGAIN AND AGAIN, NEVER WINNING, AND WORSE, NOT UNDERSTANDING WHY HE WAS LOSING."

"'YOU ARE ONLY OF THE VILLAGE,' HE TOLD ORONDE. 'AND I AM FASTER THAN FLAME.'"

"THE DEFEATS BROKE ORONDE. HE FELL INTO A DEEP SORROW. HE WOULD NOT EAT OR DRINK. AND THOUGH HE DID NOT RISE FROM HIS BED, HE NEVER SEEMED TO SLEEP EITHER."

"FINALLY, ORONDE WENT TO SEE AN OLD SHAMAN. ORONDE TOLD THE SHAMAN THAT HE WOULD NEVER ACCEPT HIS DEFEAT. BUT THE SHAMAN EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT HE, IN FACT, ALREADY HAD."

"SOME PART OF ORONDE REALLY BELIEVED THAT HE COULD NEVER BEAT THE CHEETAH, THAT HE REALLY WAS A MERE VILLAGE BOY--AND SO HE RAN LIKE ONE."

"THE NEXT DAY ORONDE AGAIN MET THE CHEETAH IN THE FOREST. AND THE CHEETAH SAID UPON SEEING HIM, 'AHH, AGAIN, IT IS THE VILLAGE BOY.'

"BUT ORONDE FELT A GREAT POWER NOW AND HE SAID TO THE CHEETAH, 'I AM NO BOY. I AM YOUR MASTER.'

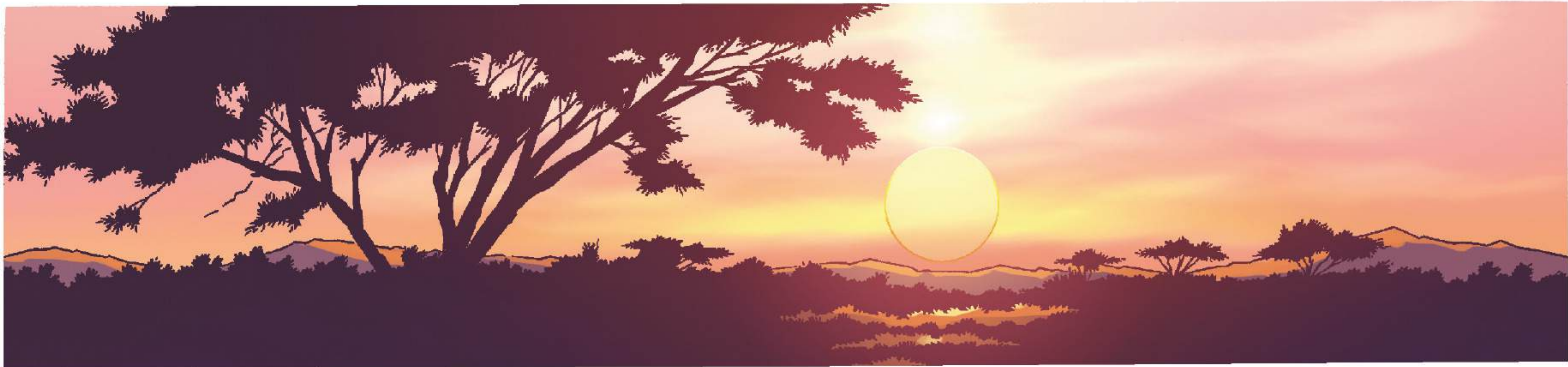
"AND SO ORONDE WAS. HE DEFEATED THE CHEETAH. AND THEN DEFEATED HIM AGAIN. AND THE TOWNSPEOPLE THEN KNEW HIM BY ANOTHER NAME--ORONDE WHO MASTERED THE FLAME."

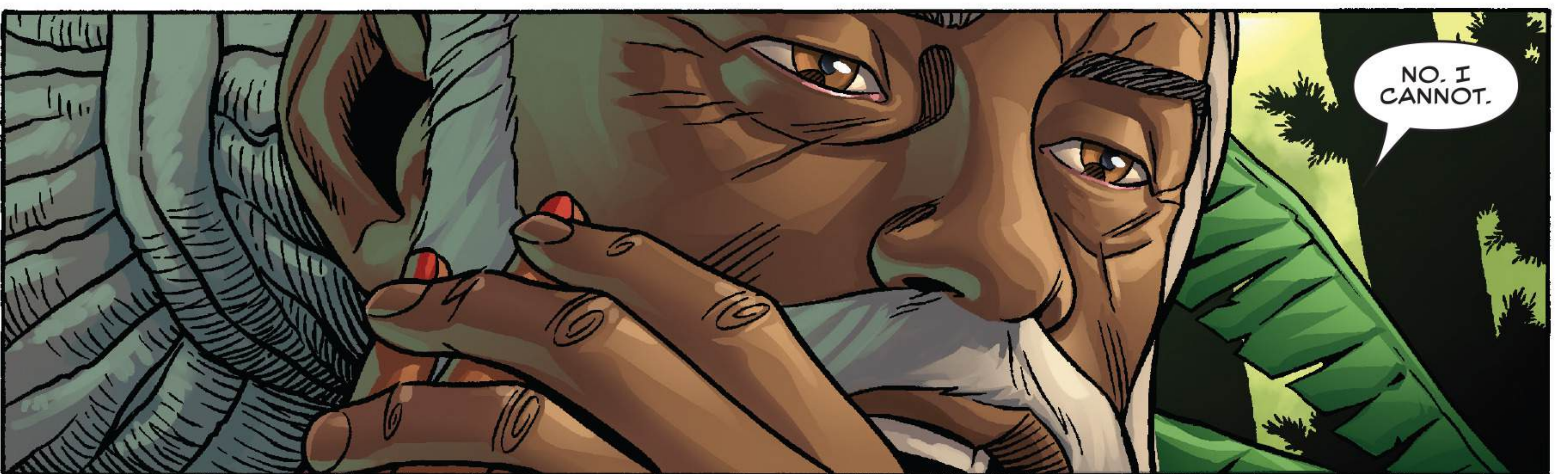
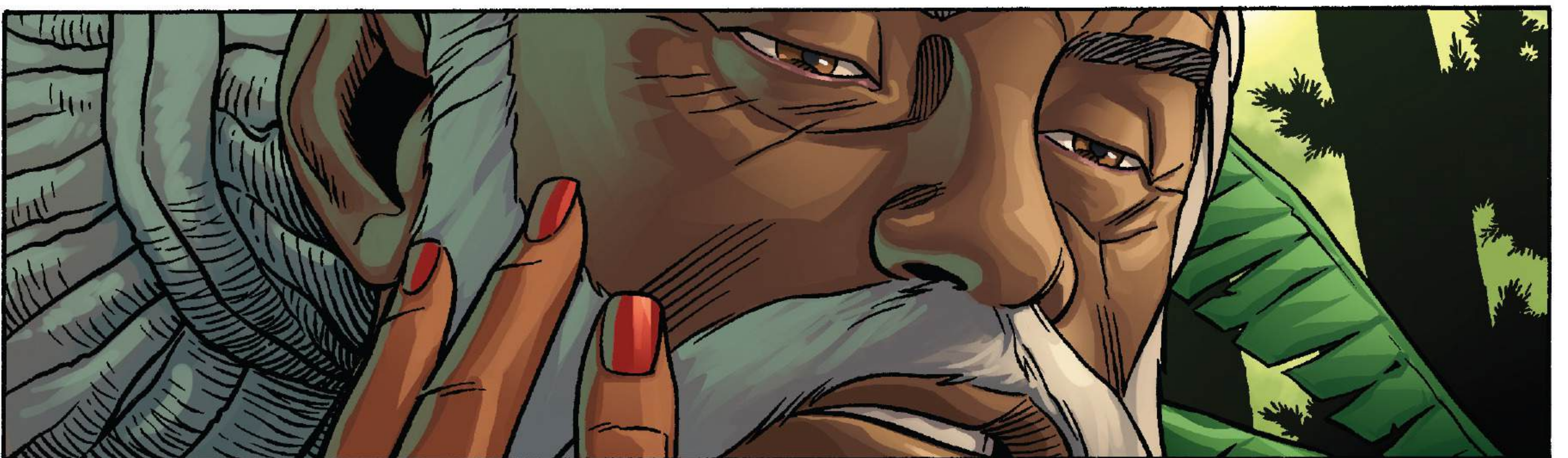
THAT IS A LOVELY STORY, SHURI. BUT WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN? WHAT WAS THE THING YOU RECOVERED? WHAT HAVE WE FORGOTTEN?

FORGIVE ME, MOTHER. I...STILL DO NOT KNOW.

OF COURSE YOU DO, CHILD-- EVEN IF THE WORDS DO NOT COME TO YOU JUST YET.

"LIKE THE BOY FROM ADOFO WITH ANOTHER NAME..."









YOU...KILL...
WHAT YOU CAN-
NOT CONTROL...
BREAK...WHAT
YOU CANNOT
BEND.

IS THIS WHAT
ALL MY TEACHINGS
HAVE BROUGHT YOU
TO? VICTORY BY ANY
MEANS? CONQUEST?
TERROR?

YOU SAY YOU
OPPOSE KINGS,
AND YET YOUR METHODS
DO NOT DIFFER FROM
THEIRS. YOU SAY YOU WAR
AGAINST TYRANNY, BUT
YOU TOO WAR AGAINST
YOUR OWN PEOPLE.

YOU SAY YOU
BRING THE POWER
OF LIFE. THEN HOW
DID IT HAPPEN THAT
YOUR VERY NAME
BECAME DEATH?



THE QUESTION
WITH NO ANSWER,
THIS IS WHAT YOU
WISHED US TO CONSIDER.
BUT THERE WAS AN
ANSWER. AND
YOU KNEW IT.

"WHAT IS OUR
REMEDY AGAINST
THE ROBBER, WHO SO
BROKE INTO OUR
HOUSE?"



WE BURN
DOWN THE
HOUSE--WITH
THE ROBBER
INSIDE.

TO BE CONTINUED

DOWN WITH THE KING

Send your emails to mheroes@marvel.com, and mark them "okay to print."

Ta-Nehisi and team,

I am 22 years old, and I have only recently exposed myself to comic books to the extent of visiting my local comic book store and purchasing BLACK PANTHER (as well as other comics) monthly. My dad collected comics at an early age (enough to fill cabinets, from what he told me), but I had only been exposed to a handful of X-MEN comics when I was growing up. This run of BLACK PANTHER has been an inspiration for me to continue researching comic books and trying to figure out the academic applications for them in a classroom setting. I am also interested in the concept of Afrofuturism thanks to my friends in college.

The references to other literary works and wonderful art of BLACK PANTHER are a joy to see, and I look forward to the rest of the series! Seeing The Crew at the end of issue #6 gave me goosebumps, so I know it's going down in the upcoming issues. Best of luck with this run!

Peace,
Marquis Hayes

So glad to hear you're checking out other books. The literary allusions are cool and important to the story. But ultimately the seed of this T'Challa story really is all the comics I read as a child.

I'm a Marvel reader of five years and while I've read Black Panther off and on in various books, no appearance has grabbed me like Stelfreeze's has. It comes off as this inky black shadow with so much power inside, like T'Challa is going to explode into movement at any moment. Definitely a highlight of this run.

Zayn

You and me both, Zayn. Brian is an inspiration. His art has actively influenced how I thought about the story.

Hi Ta-Nehisi,

This is the first comic I've read diligently, and I must say I really appreciate the shout-out to Jamaica's Nanny and Cudjoe of the Maroons at the very end of BP #5! It's encouraging to see parts of the diaspora entwined within this fictional, futuristic African world.

Thank you for all you do!
Breanne J. Palmer, J.D.

Great eyes! One of the approaches I

took with this book was to consider T'Challa and Wakanda a product of the diaspora—or of the Atlantic world. Glad you caught that. Expect more of it. And the rest of you, go google Nanny and Cudjoe. Incredible story.

Mr. Coates,

Just finished issue #5 and it has become my favorite issue so far. Let me start by saying Mr. Sprouse and Mr. Story do great work with the art! My only other exposure to T'Challa was in the Black Panther BET series. Though short-lived, it was excellent and made me a fan of not only T'Challa, but of Wakanda, and the high moral character it seemed to have. Now, after reading issue 5, it has skewed my whole vision of T'Challa and Wakanda. What I held in the highest regard to be an incorruptible man and nation are totally not what they seem! The kid in me was saddened by this because we hold our heroes in such high regard, but at the same time I appreciated this story so much more because it showed that even though he is an Avenger, an Ultimate, and a King, T'Challa is still just a man. And like any "great nation," peace and "greatness" come at a cost.

And not to be overlooked is Shuri's journey! I appreciate how she is connecting with the Ancestors and how this is juxtaposed with T'Challa entertaining modern ways of silencing The People's voice. Keeping touch with our ancestors and traditional ways is so important in our journeys as people of color! Keep up the good work!

Dom L
Salinas, CA

Yeah. I think it comes down to what we want out of our heroes. Instinctively, I disbelieve those heroes who I can't relate to on a human level. I think this goes back even to our oldest myths. The heroes of Ancient Greece, for instance, were not without flaw. I don't think of T'Challa as corrupt. I just think of him as a human wrestling with superhuman power.

Reality is too complex to fully capture in abstractions. Which makes the reality you've created so unique and interesting – it's a series of interwoven abstractions from various points of view (be it in dialogue or even in The Djalía). There's a history that seems real and necessary to understand in order to make sense of the current situation for the people of Wakanda. The way

that you give just enough insight into the pain and pride of the people in this world that you've imagined has grappled for my attention and now I'm eating up each new piece of the story. I'm hooked. I really find myself identifying with Tetu's perspective and connection to the Earth. And because of that connection he's, for me, like the Heisenberg of this series – the "bad guy" to root for. Who did you base this character on, or what did you draw from when creating his perspective and power?

The funny thing is that I didn't get into comics as an 8-year-old. Or even 18 or 28. I turned 38 this summer and for the first time in my life I find myself frequenting comic book stores. Hats off to you, Mr. Coates, Mr. Stelfreeze, the whole team, and Marvel.

With gratitude,
Eric Alvarez

Thanks, Eric. I don't know that anyone does villains better than Marvel, and that's really where I'm drawing from. Doctor Doom and Magneto are just the ultimate to me because they are so compelling in their arguments and as characters. There's a lot of that in Tetu and Zenzi, and a little bit in Ayo and Aneka. Thinking about this, I suspect that Marvel gave me my first lessons on what evil is and can be. One of the most important of those lessons is that sometimes evil isn't.

Okay, guys. Be sure to check out WORLD OF WAKANDA in a few weeks. There will be some awesome backstory on some of T'Challa's friends, enemies, and frenemies. Next issue: Shuri. T'Challa. Manifold. The Djalía. 'Nuff said. -T

NEXT:

LOST IN THE WORLD



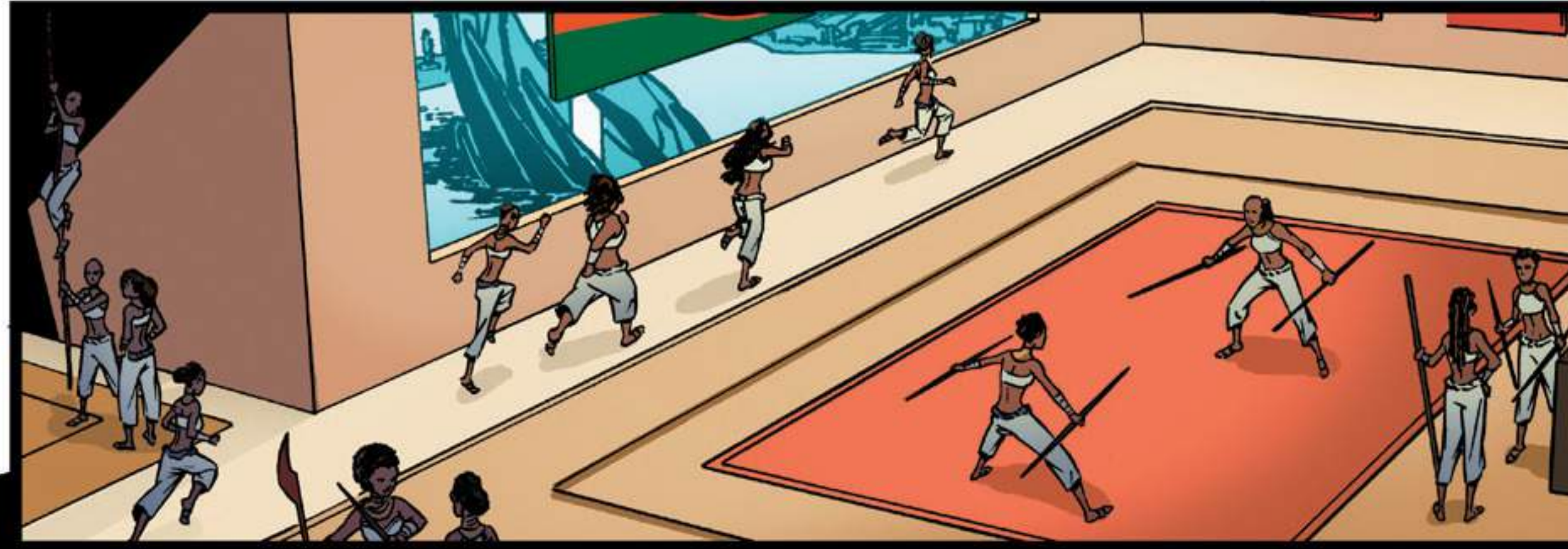
BLACK PANTHER

WORLD OF WAKANDA #1

NOVEMBER 2016

ROXANE GAY • YONA HARVEY • TA-NEHISI COATES
ALITHA E. MARTINEZ • AFUA RICHARDSON

ISSUE ONE PREVIEW ART BY
ALITHA E. MARTINEZ
& **RACHELLE ROSENBERG**





Interview by Ben Morse

PANTHER NATION: JEFF N FESS

The hip-hop group Jeff N Fess recently produced a track for the *Black Panther: A Nation Under Our Feet* spotlight video series. We caught up with the duo -- Rhymefest and Jazzy Jeff -- to ask them about their heroes on the page and in real life.

Marvel.com: In addition to now being part of the Black Panther family, you guys were already avid Marvel fans way before you got involved with this project. What comics got you hooked?

Rhymefest: What got me hooked on comics wasn't the comics themselves. My son was eight and we lived in separate states. Our phone calls were boring and generic. We loved one another, but after "how was school, what'd you have for dinner?" it was pretty much "bye." I decided to buy double copies of WORLD WAR HULK and send Solomon a copy. We both read them and connected like never before, discussing the adventures, problems and solutions of those that possessed superhuman abilities. For our relationship, comics became therapeutic and connected us for life. My son is 18 years old today and we read our weekly comics side by side.

Marvel.com: Is there a particular Marvel hero you like or relate to the most?

Rhymefest: I'd love to relate to King T'Challa the most, because he's the illest brother whose story lines I admire and fantasize about living out, I mean, damn, he's had relations with Ororo, a.k.a. Storm. But to be honest I'm closer to Hank Pym, a little guy who packs a wallop!

Jazzy Jeff: My favorite has to be Spider-Man. I love how he's two different people...kinda like me...lol!

Marvel.com: Say you could have one super-power, what would it be?

Rhymefest: If I had one super-power it'd be to see every situation or person's character from every perspective possible, then make a rational deduction about the best way forward. I'd basically be a superhuman charmer who could affect most outcomes in my favor.

Jazzy Jeff: Hulk... I would love the strength!!!

Marvel.com: Switching gears to hip-hop, who are some of your biggest musical influences?

Rhymefest: Some of my biggest musical influences I'm currently having the blessing to be able to work with, like Jeff, Xzibit, Lord Finesse, and the guys that basically influenced my style from day one.

Jazzy Jeff: Kenny Gamble and Berry Gordy are my two biggest!!!

Marvel.com: What do you consider to be your proudest musical achievement in your career?

Rhymefest: Biggest musical achievement in my career thus far is being able to give to the community I came up in on the South Side of Chicago. Speaking of Chicago, I love how the new NIGHTHAWK book is looking. But so many artists just never seem to be able to come back and give back in a real way. I'm proud that my hometown community accepts and is proud of me.

Jazzy Jeff: Being asked to play the President's birthday party was at the top!

Marvel.com: Finally, what up-and-coming artist do you think could be the next big thing?

Rhymesfest: Next biggest up-and-coming artist is a guy I'm mentoring named Jon Da Author. He's vicious on the rhyme tip and a great guy to match.

Jazzy Jeff: Masego is the guy to look out for... super talented!!!

Learn more about activism in Chicago at dondashouseinc.org and follow Panther Nation at marvel.com/panthernation

MARVEL

COATES ● SPROUSE ● STORY ● MARTIN

BLACK PANTHER

#8

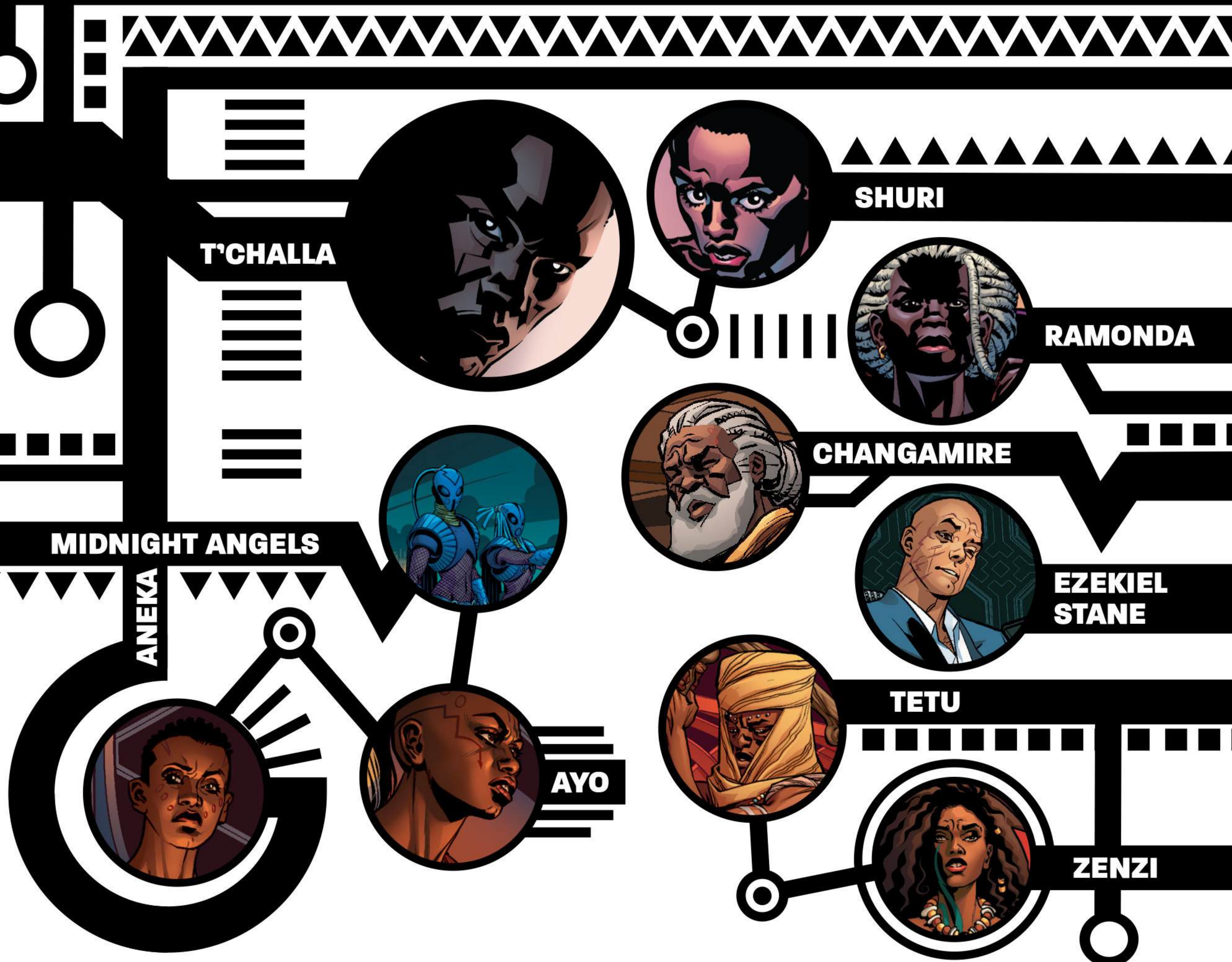
LAURA
TAYLOR
JONES

BLACK PANTHER

WITH HELP FROM HIS CREW — **LUKE CAGE, MISTY KNIGHT, STORM,** AND **MANIFOLD** — **T'CHALLA** ROOTED OUT A HIDDEN BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR THE REBEL GROUP KNOWN AS **THE PEOPLE**.

MEANWHILE, T'CHALLA'S SISTER AND FORMER QUEEN OF WAKANDA **SHURI** HAS BEEN FROZEN IN A STATE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH. HOWEVER, HER SPIRIT TRAVELS THE DJALIA, A TRANSCENDENT PLANE OF WAKANDA'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE. SHE IS LEAD BY A GRIOT IN THE FORM OF HER MOTHER, WHO HAS BEEN IMPARTING THE COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE OF WAKANDA'S ANCESTORS.

Discover more about the Black Panther and Wakanda with the **BLACK PANTHER: A NATION UNDER OUR FEET** spotlight videos at marvel.com/PantherNation



A NATION

UNDER OUR FEET

part **8**

writer **TA-NEHISI COATES**

layouts **CHRIS SPROUSE**

finishes **KARL STORY** with **WALDEN WONG**

color artist **LAURA MARTIN**

letterer **VC's CLAYTON COWLES**

design **MANNY MEDEROS**

logo **RIAN HUGHES**

cover by **BRIAN STELFREEZE**

& LAURA MARTIN

variant cover by **ESAD RIBIC**

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executive editor **TOM BREVOORT**

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BLACK PANTHER created by **STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY**

NECROPOLIS,
THE CITY OF
THE DEAD



MISSION
ACCOMPLISHED,
I'D SAY.

WITH EXTREME
PREJUDICE.



SO I GUESS THAT MEANS
I WON'T BE HEARING FROM
YOU GUYS FOR A
WHILE, RIGHT?

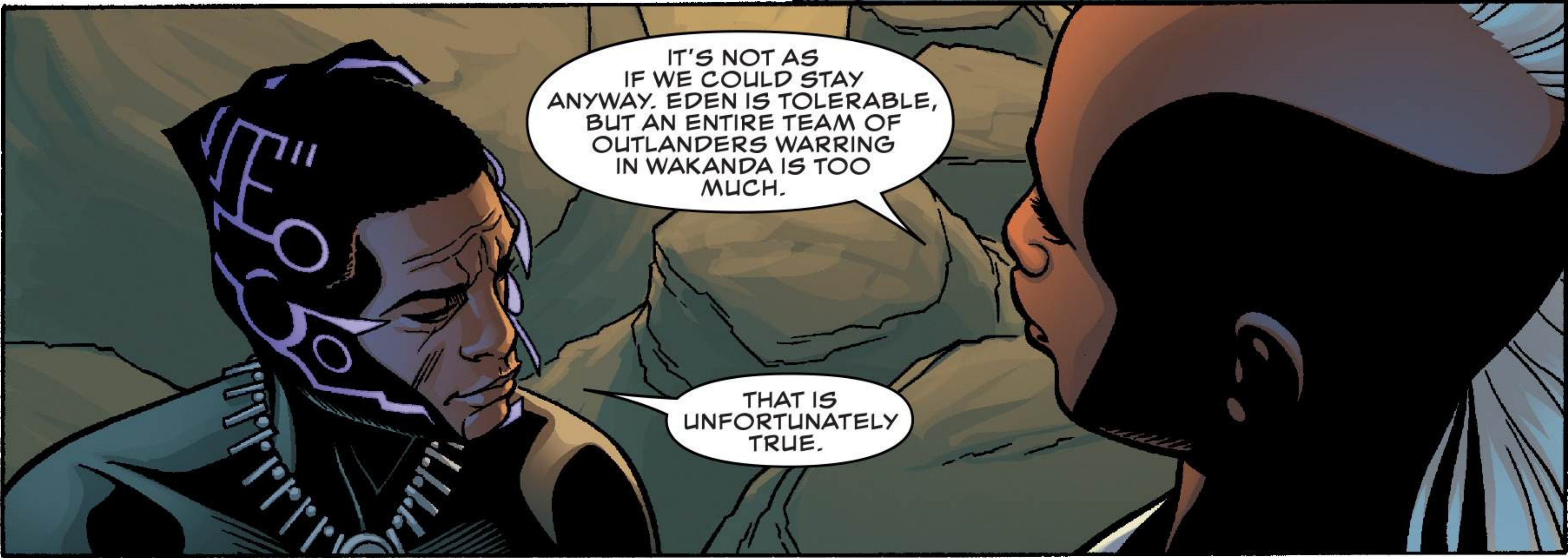
OH, COME
ON, LUKE. IT
WAS FUN.

I GOT A FAMILY,
MISTY. YOU KNOW
WHAT THIS IS.



NOT
REALLY.

TAXES,
PRESCHOOL,
AND PLAYDATES.
DO YOU KNOW THEY
GIVE IQ TESTS IN
NURSERY SCHOOL
NOW? I GOTTA
GO.



IT'S NOT AS
IF WE COULD STAY
ANYWAY. EDEN IS TOLERABLE,
BUT AN ENTIRE TEAM OF
OUTLANDERS WARRING
IN WAKANDA IS TOO
MUCH.

THAT IS
UNFORTUNATELY
TRUE.



STILL, WE'RE A DAMN SIGHT BETTER THAN SPIDER-MAN OR CAPTAIN AMERICA.

WAIT. MAYBE NOT.



WITH ALL THAT HE REPRESENTS, I COULD NOT PULL SAM INTO THIS. AESTHETICS DID FACTOR INTO MY CHOICE...

BUT AESTHETICS WILL NOT SAVE YOU.

NO, THEY WILL NOT. WAKANDANS THINK THEMSELVES A RACE ALL THEIR OWN. IT IS...FOOLISH. I AM WORKING ON IT.

WHAT IS NOT FOOLISH IS YOUR PRESENCE HERE, AND WHAT EACH OF YOU OFFERED IS MUCH MORE THAN SKIN-DEEP.



EDEN, I BROUGHT YOU HERE FOR YOUR GREAT POWER, BUT EVEN MORE FOR YOUR LARGE HEART. YOU HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A HERO. AND YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ONE.



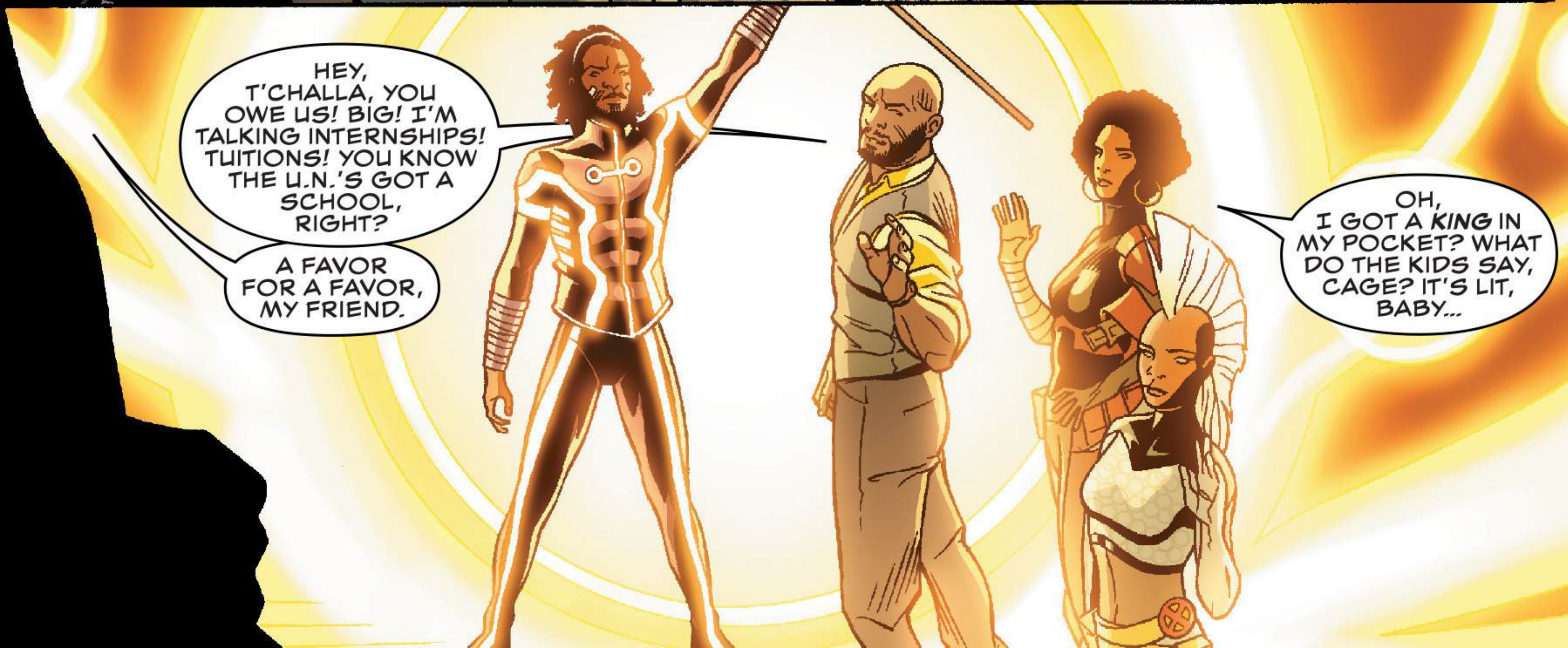
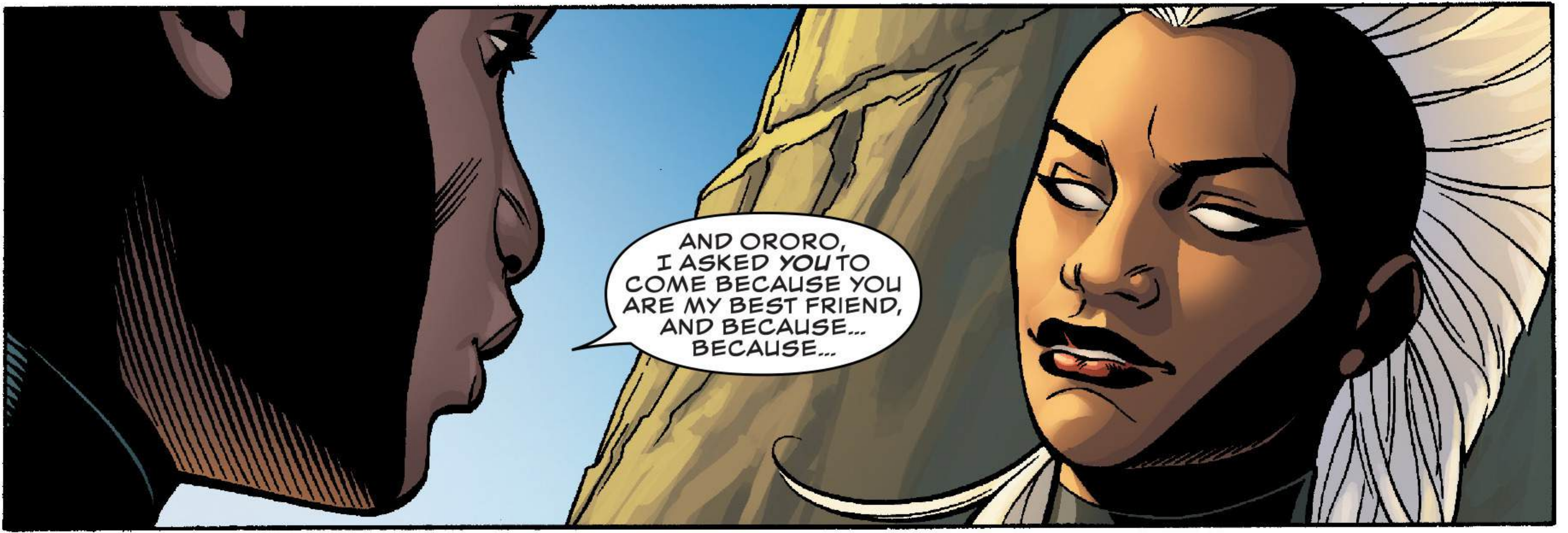
LUKE, I BROUGHT YOU BECAUSE YOU TRULY ARE MY BROTHER, UNBREAKABLE IN SKIN AND SPIRIT.



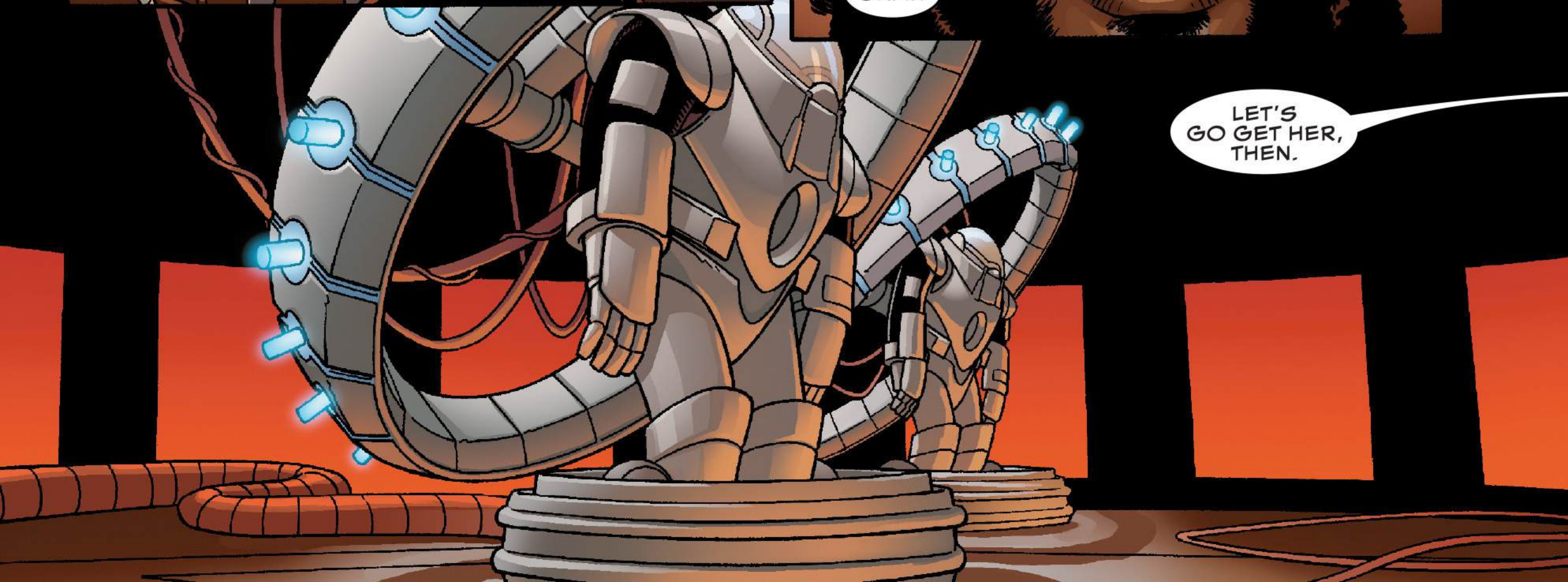
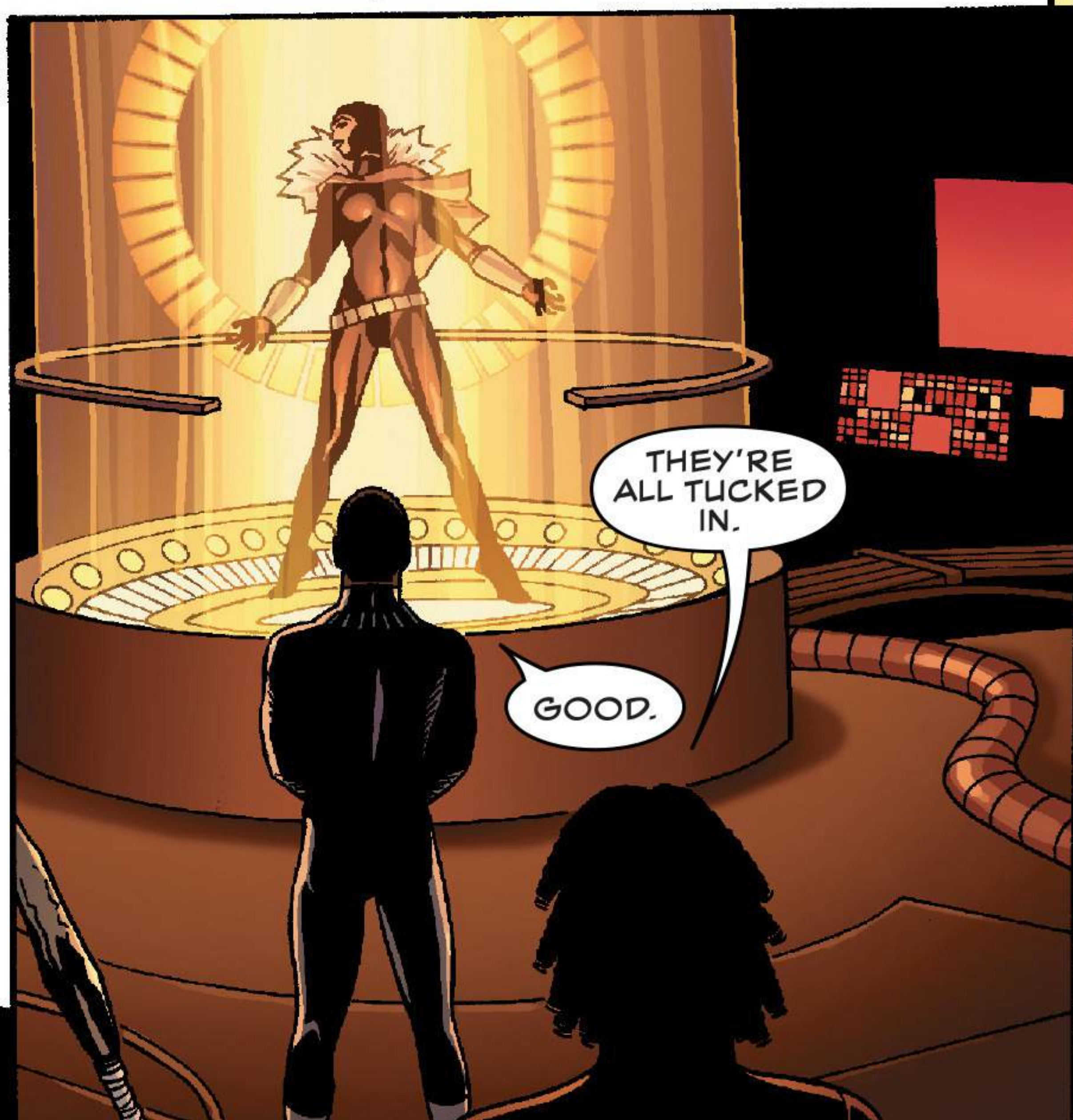
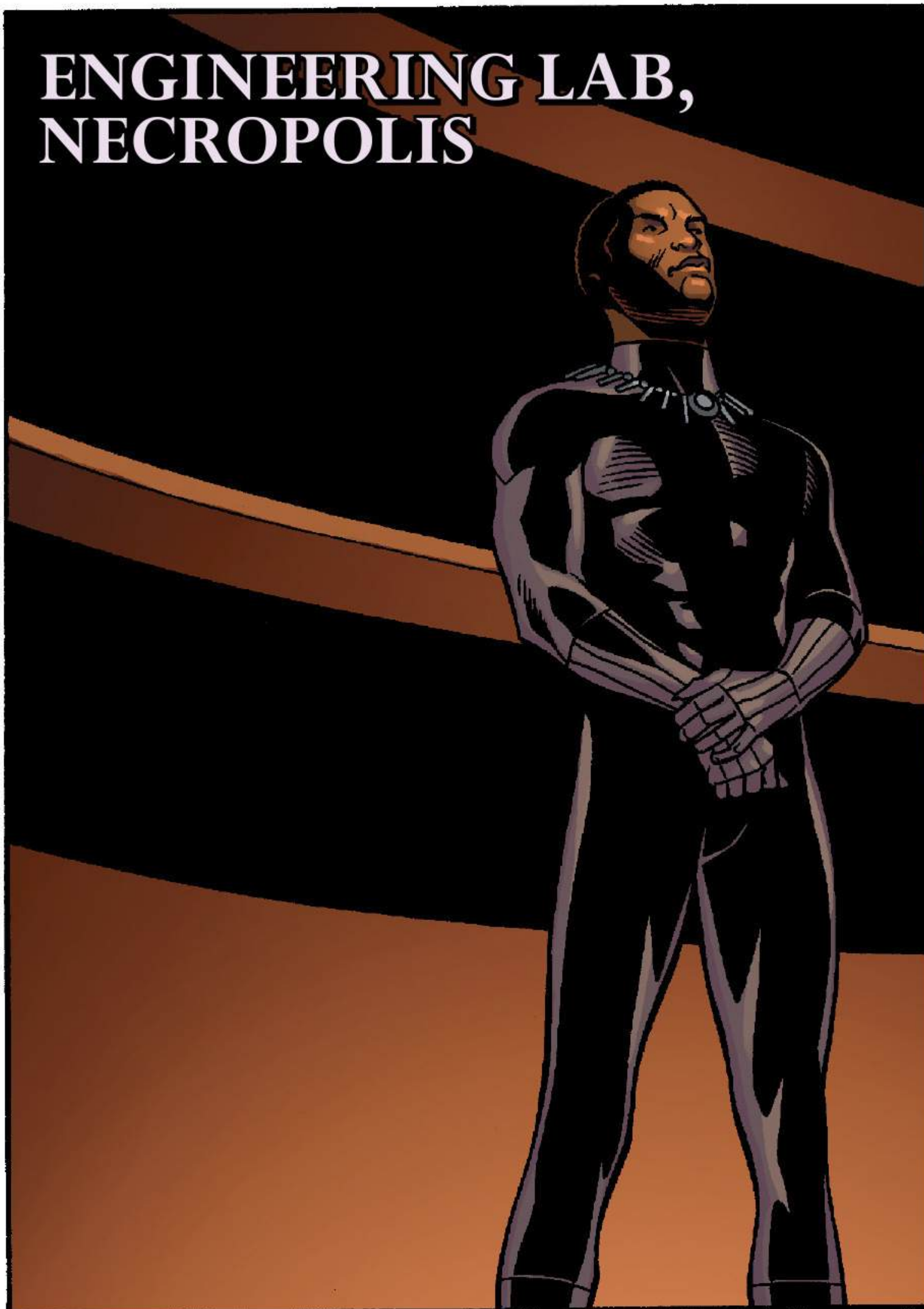
MISTY, I KNOW LESS OF YOU, BUT LUKE HAS LONG REGALED ME WITH YOUR EXPLOITS.

HAD TO SEE FOR YOURSELF, DID YOU?

I SUPPOSE I DID.



ENGINEERING LAB, NECROPOLIS





MOTHER,
THEY ARE
COMING.



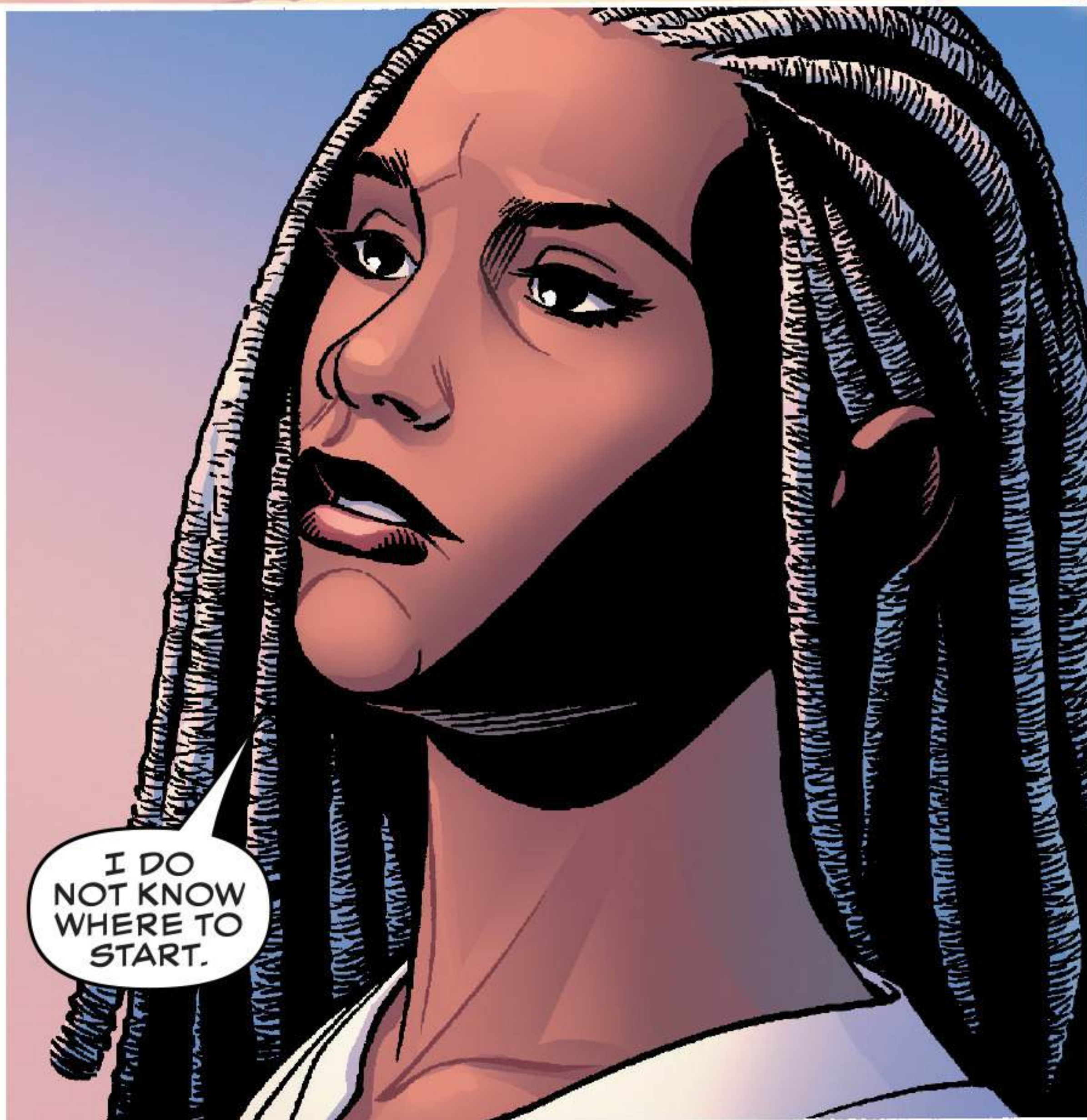
YES,
CHILD. I
KNOW.

THE DJALIA

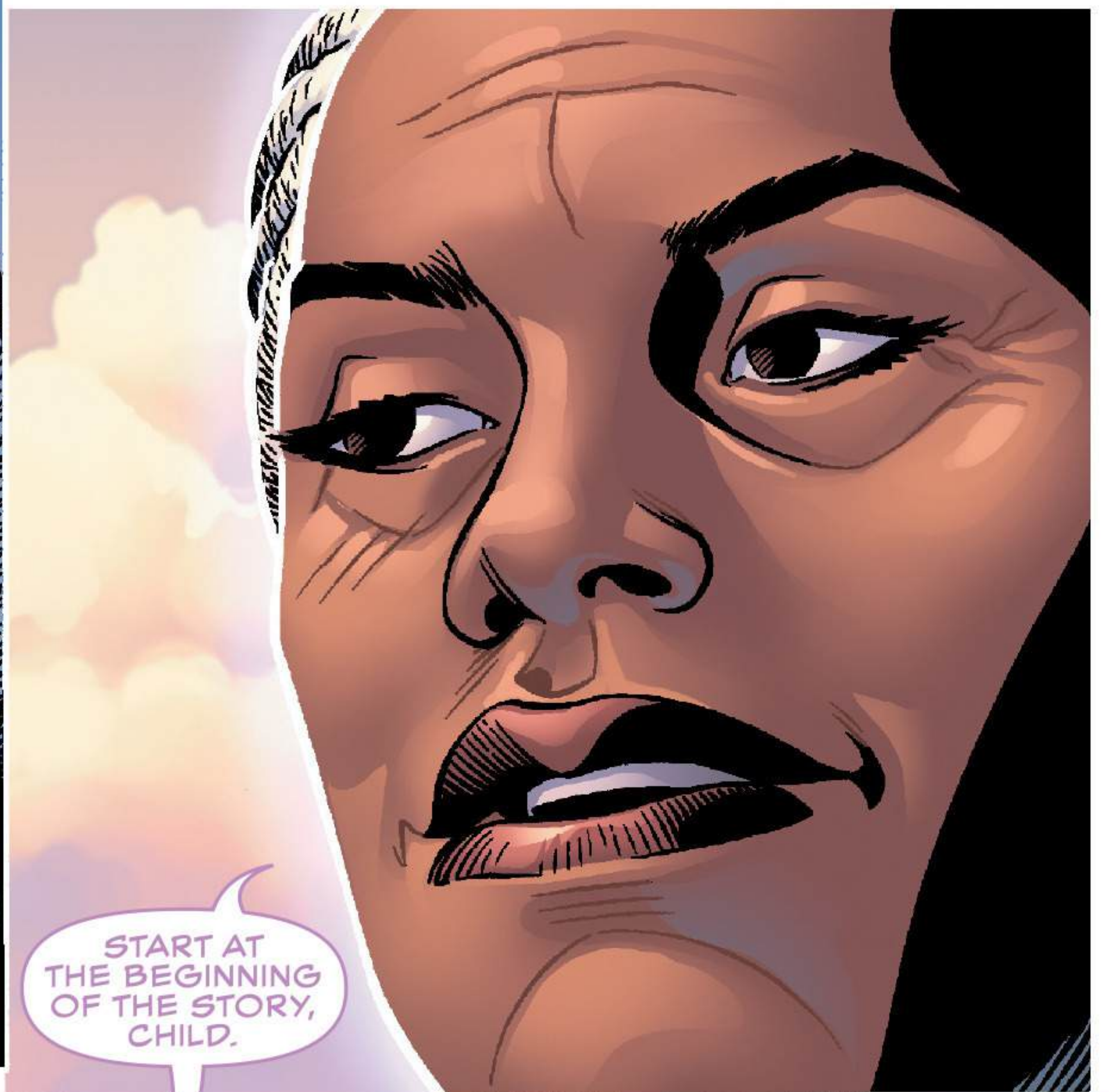


THERE IS NOT MUCH TIME LEFT. AND I HAVE SO MUCH TO SAY.

SAY THAT WHICH HAS THE MOST MEANING.



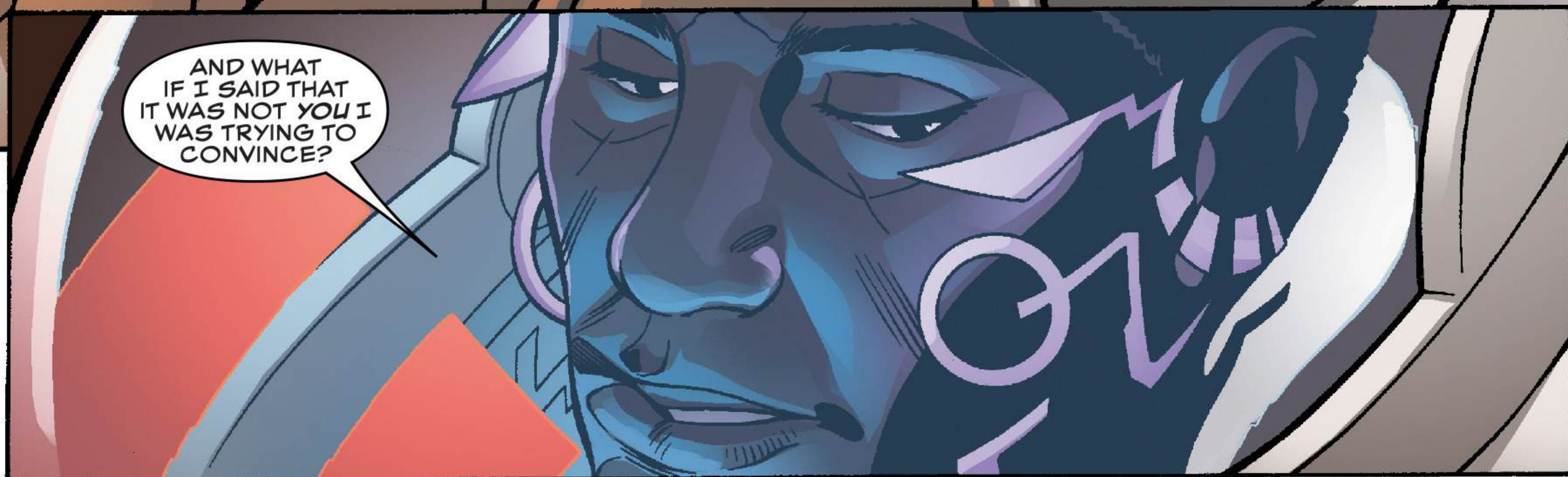
I DO NOT KNOW WHERE TO START.

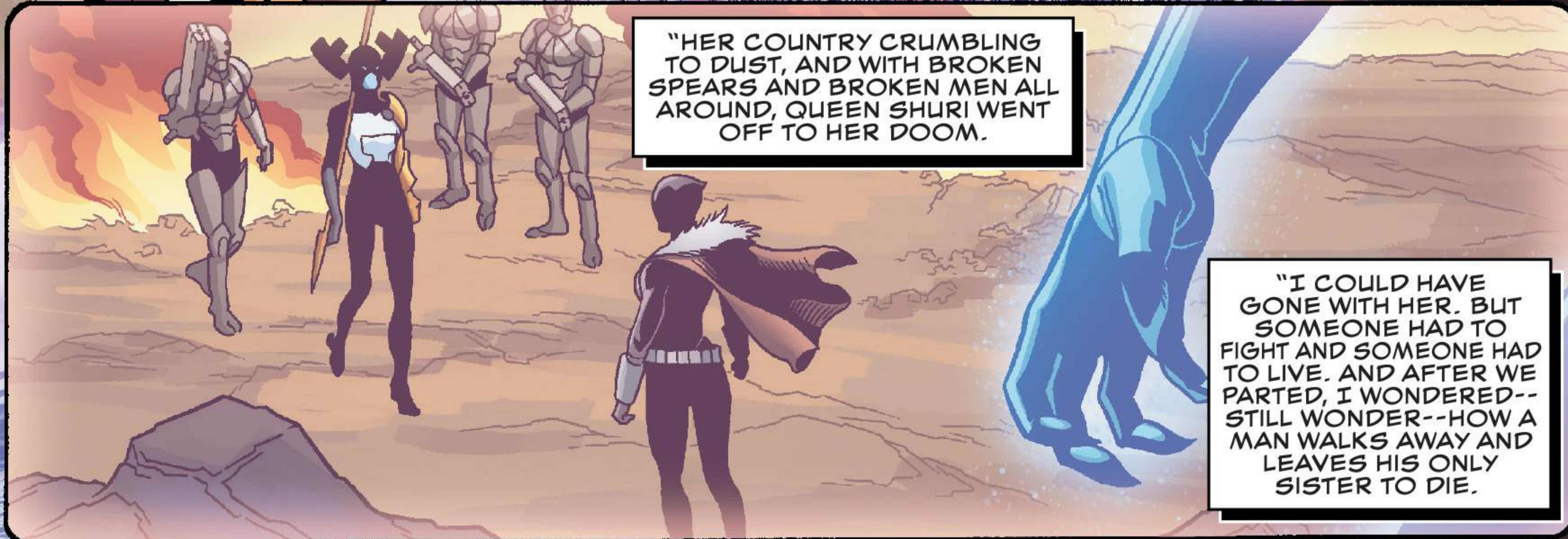
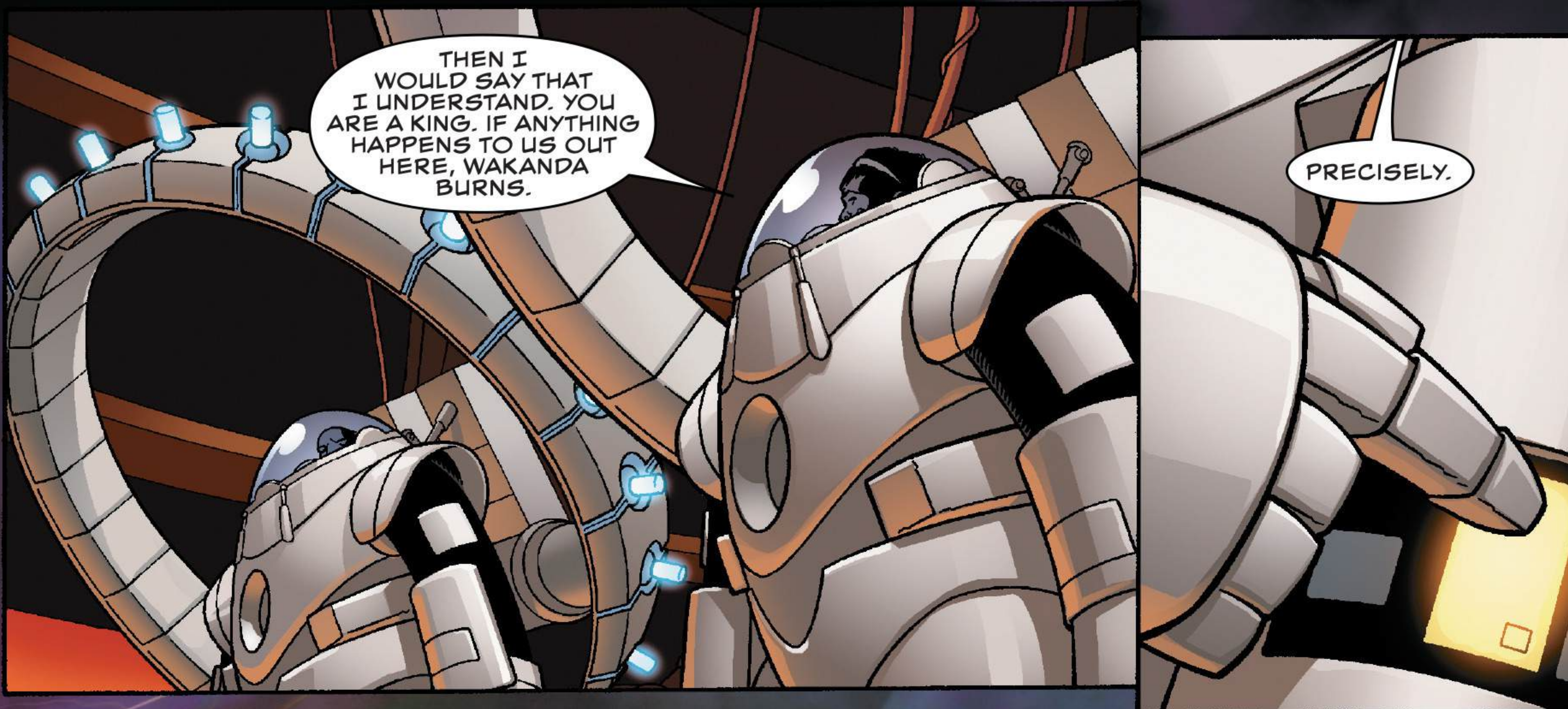


START AT THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY, CHILD.



FOR IN THE END, ONLY THE STORY MATTERS.



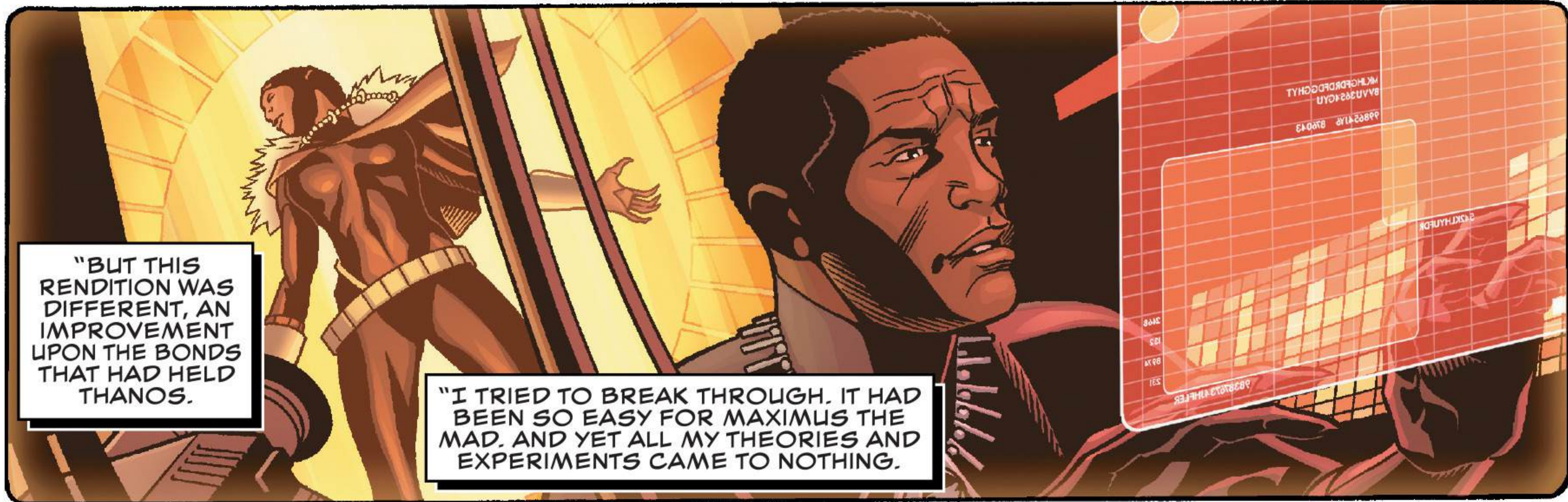




"IN FACT, I HAD LEFT HER TO SOMETHING FAR WORSE."

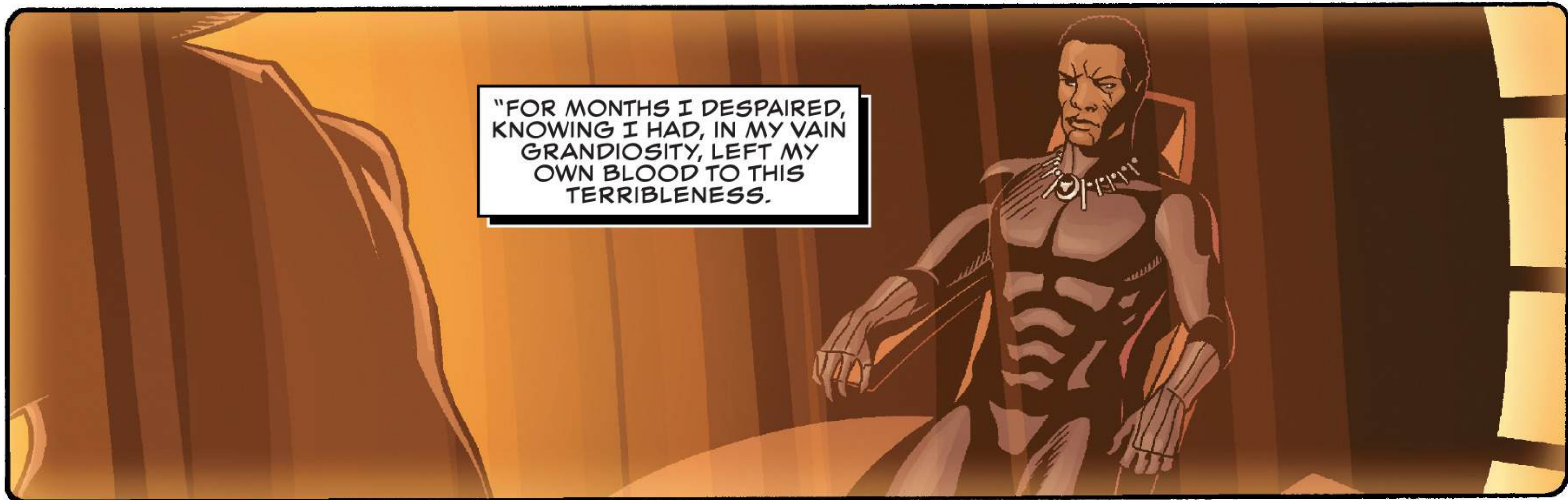


"THE LIVING DEATH WAS FIRST DEPLOYED TO STOP THE BLACK ORDER. HOW POETIC THAT THEY WOULD TURN IT BACK UPON US."

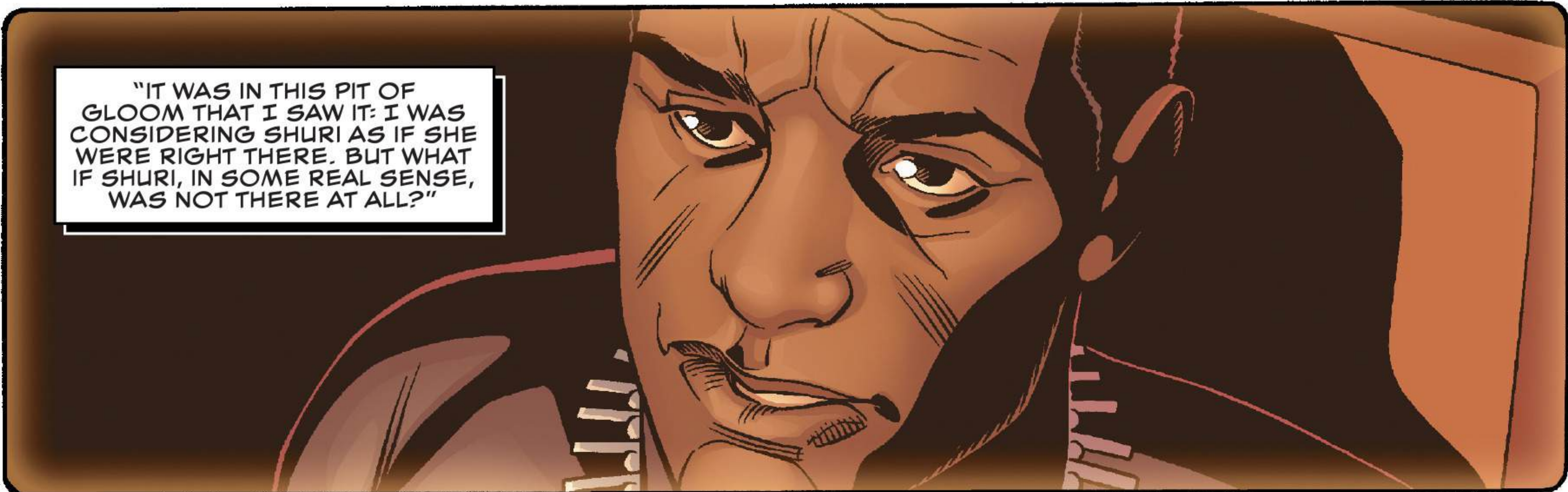


"BUT THIS RENDITION WAS DIFFERENT, AN IMPROVEMENT UPON THE BONDS THAT HAD HELD THANOS."

"I TRIED TO BREAK THROUGH. IT HAD BEEN SO EASY FOR MAXIMUS THE MAD. AND YET ALL MY THEORIES AND EXPERIMENTS CAME TO NOTHING."

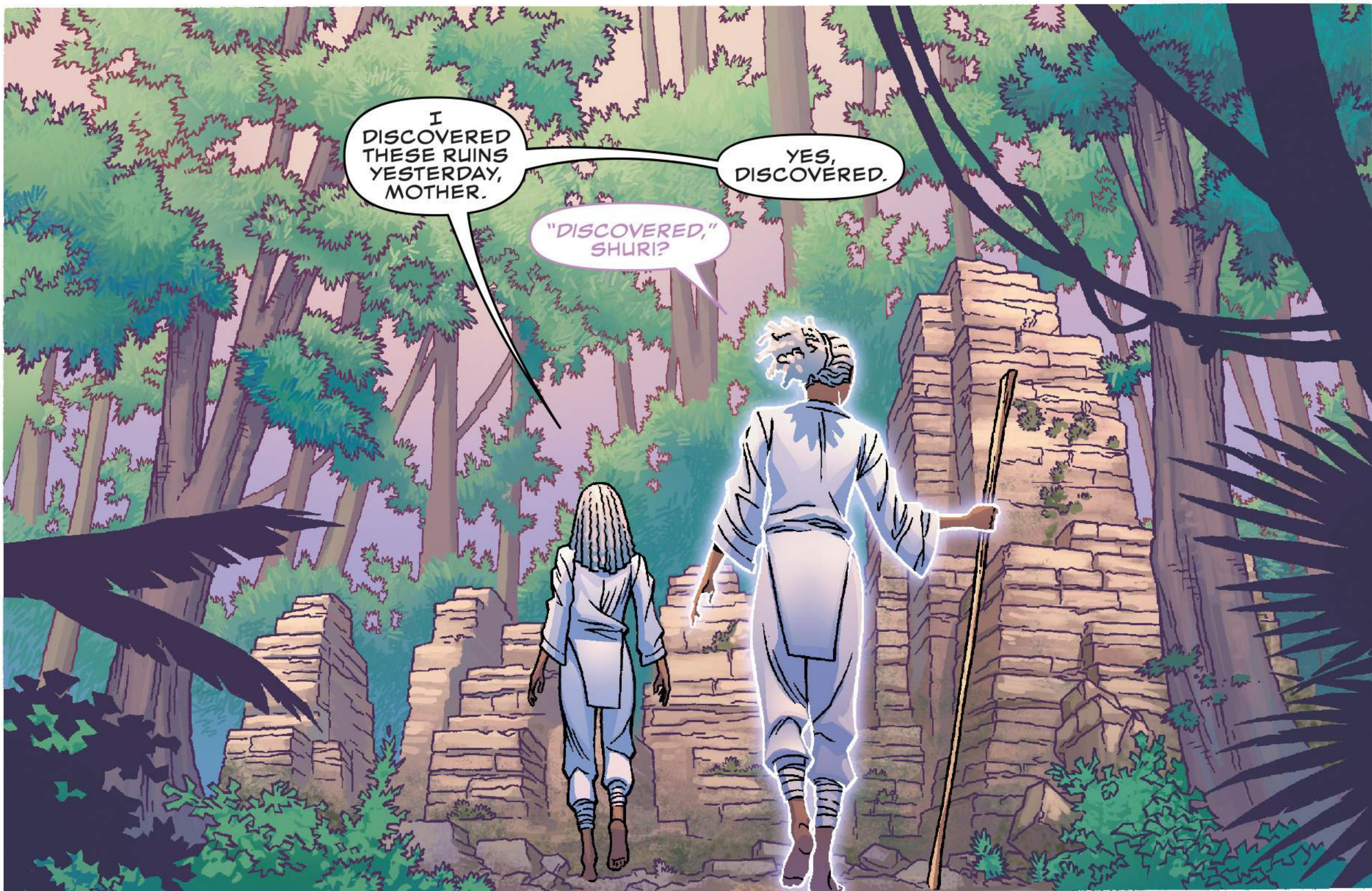


"FOR MONTHS I DESPAIRED, KNOWING I HAD, IN MY VAIN GRANDIOSITY, LEFT MY OWN BLOOD TO THIS TERRIBLENESS."



"IT WAS IN THIS PIT OF GLOOM THAT I SAW IT: I WAS CONSIDERING SHURI AS IF SHE WERE RIGHT THERE. BUT WHAT IF SHURI, IN SOME REAL SENSE, WAS NOT THERE AT ALL?"

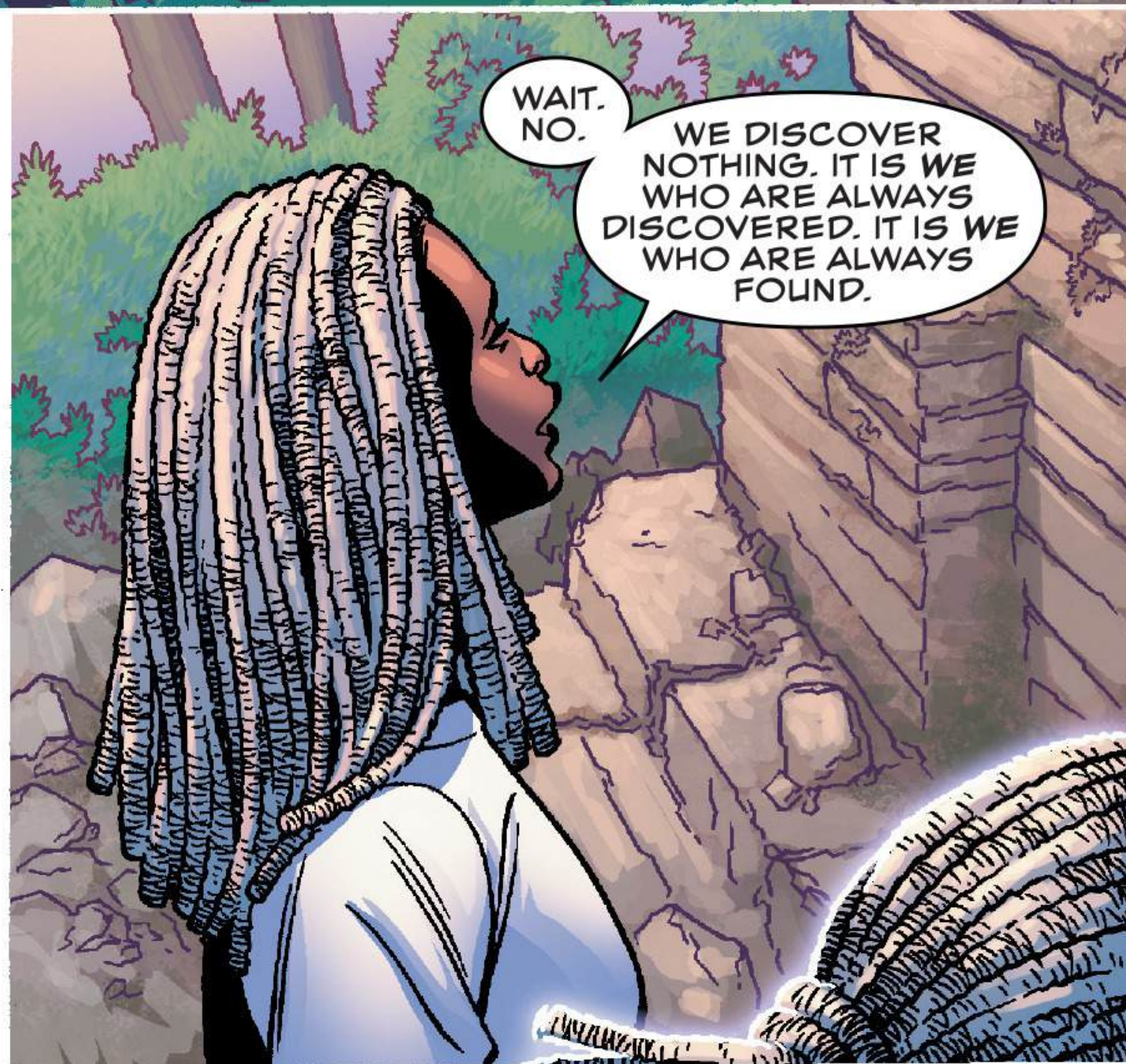




I
DISCOVERED
THESE RUINS
YESTERDAY,
MOTHER.

YES,
DISCOVERED.

"DISCOVERED,"
SHURI?



WAIT.
NO.

WE DISCOVER
NOTHING. IT IS WE
WHO ARE ALWAYS
DISCOVERED. IT IS WE
WHO ARE ALWAYS
FOUND.



SO DISCOVER?
NO. WE WALK
THE WAY OF THE
OLD WORLD.

WE OBSERVE
AND ARE OBSERVED. WE
RECOUNT AS THE BLOWING
BRANCHES RECOUNT THE WIND.
WE RECOUNT AS THE STONES
RECOUNT THE SEA THAT
BATTERS THEM TO
SAND.



ARE WE
NOTHING, MOTHER?
ARE WE BUT SHADOWS
OF SOME GREAT
UNKNOWNABLE?

I DO NOT
KNOW, DAUGHTER.
IN THE FIRST INSTANCE,
SHADOWS ARE NOT
"NOTHING." IN THE
SECOND, IT WAS YOU
WHO BROUGHT
ME HERE.



AND SO
TELL ME, WHY
HERE? WHAT WAS
THE SHADOW YOU
WISHED TO RECOUNT?
WHAT WAS THE STORY
YOU WISHED TO
TELL?

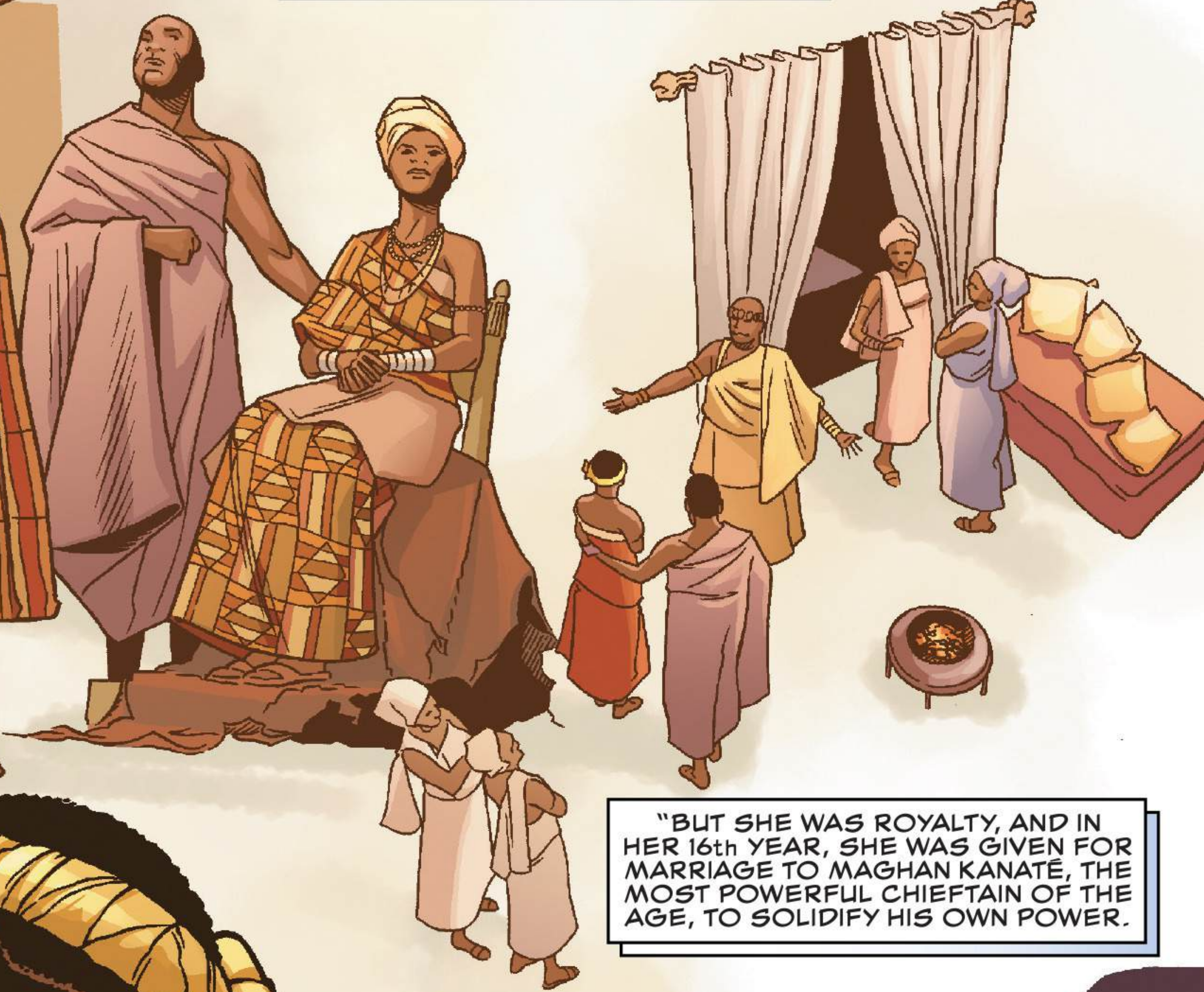


THIS WAS ONCE THE HOME OF THE **BAKO**, WHO UNIFIED WAKANDA AND USHERED IN THE FIFTH DYNASTY OF THE NEW DOMINION.



"THEIR QUEEN-MOTHER, **SOLOGON**, WAS BORN TO THE **BAKO** CHIEFTAIN AT THE ONSET OF THEIR RISE, TWO THOUSAND SEASONS BEFORE THE MANSA'S GREAT HAJJ.

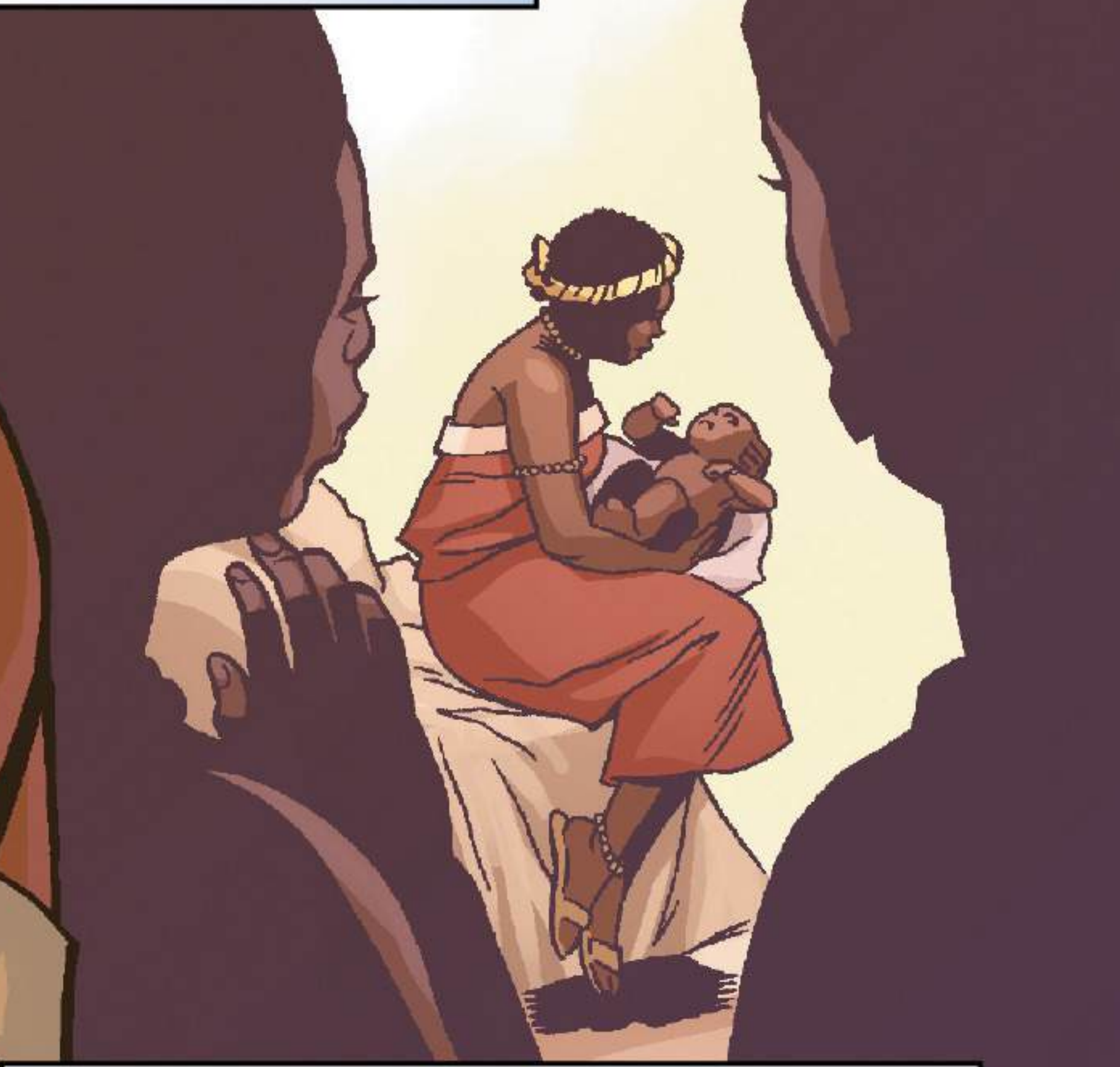
"SOLOGON WAS NOT ESTEEMED BY THE COURT. SHE WAS NOT A LADY. SHE WAS BLUNT WHEN SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN WITTY. SHE DID NOT TAKE WELL TO RITUAL.



"BUT SHE WAS ROYALTY, AND IN HER 16th YEAR, SHE WAS GIVEN FOR MARRIAGE TO **MAGHAN KANATÉ**, THE MOST POWERFUL CHIEFTAIN OF THE AGE, TO SOLIDIFY HIS OWN POWER.



"SOLOGON'S TRIALS CONTINUED. **KANATÉ**'S OTHER WIVES MOCKED HER, AND FOR HER LACK OF GRACE NAMED HER THE **BUFFALO WOMAN**.



"IN HER THIRD YEAR OF MARRIAGE, SOLOGON BORE A SON. **KANATÉ** DIED SOON AFTER, AND HIS WIVES PLOTTED TO HAVE SOLOGON AND HER SON BANISHED BACK TO THE **BAKO**."

THESE WERE THE INJURIES, AMONG MANY OTHERS, THAT SOLOGON--THE SO-CALLED BUFFALO WOMAN-- WAS MADE TO CARRY.



BUT EVERY DART ENDURED, EVERY TORTURE TOLERATED, TEMPERED HER. SOLOGON GREW STRONG. RUTHLESS. HARD.



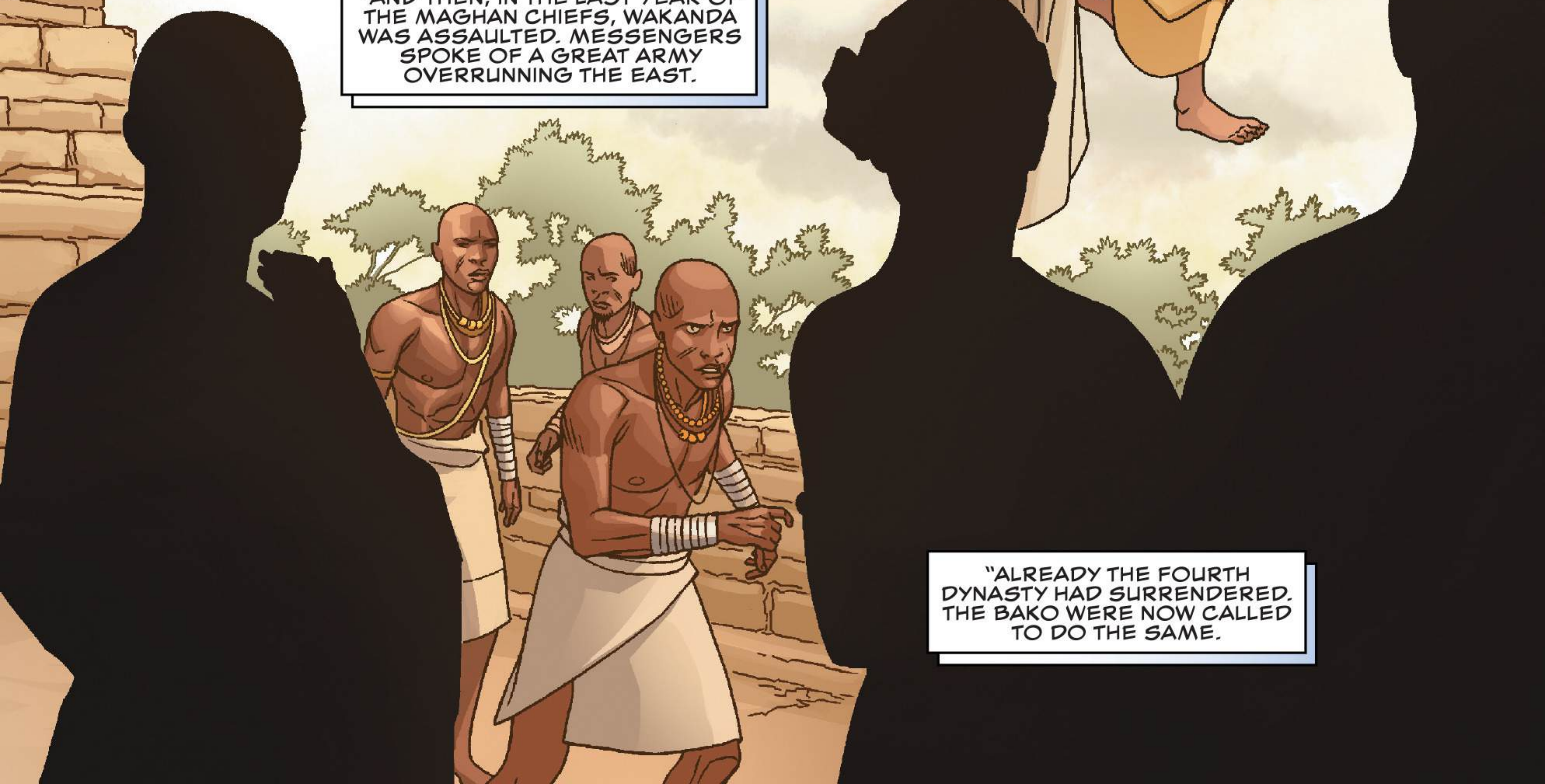
"SHE REARED HER SON, MARI DJATA, WITH A HARD AND LOVING HAND. 'SPIRIT OF IRON,' SHE WOULD TELL HIM, 'MAKES SKIN OF STONE.'



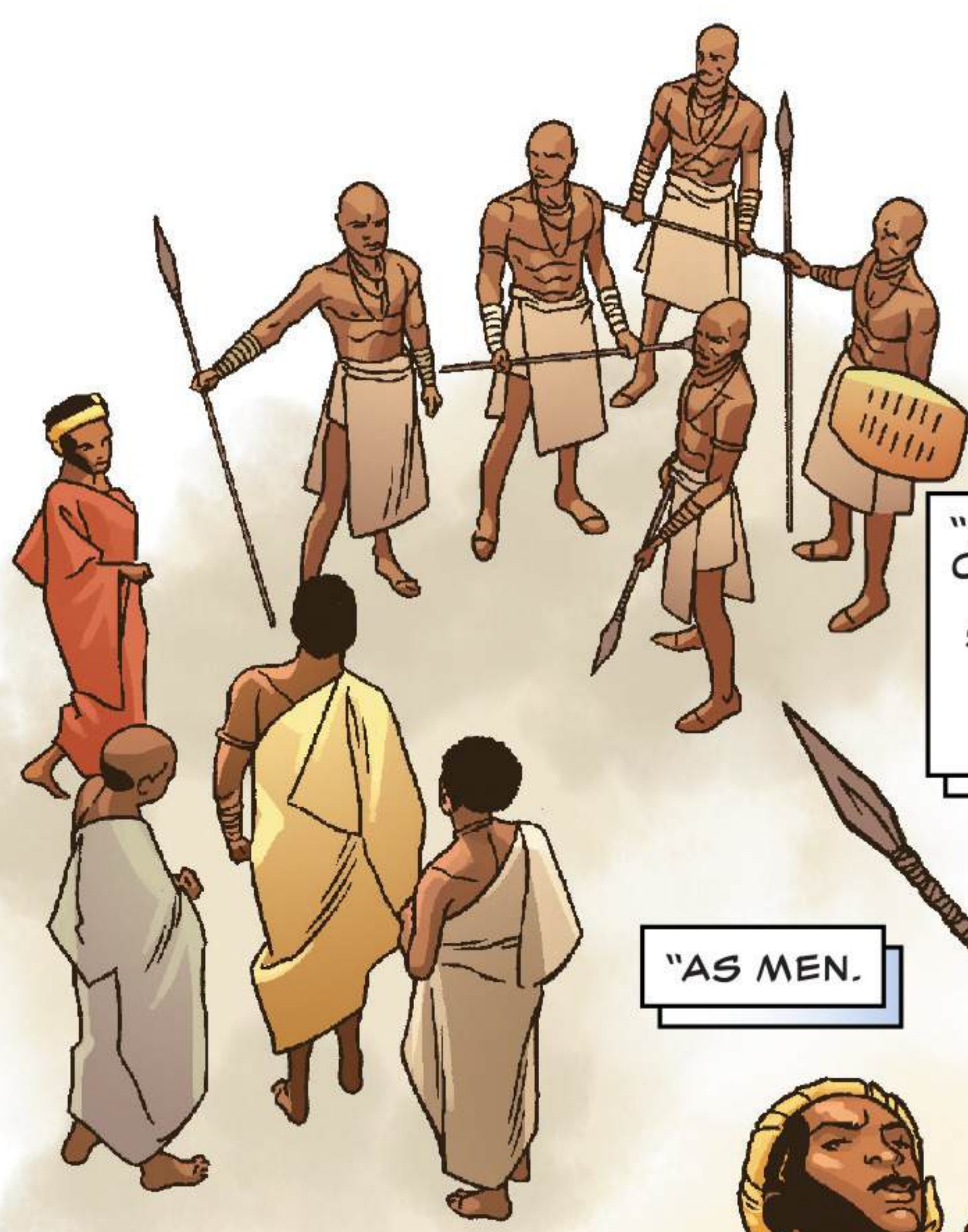
"YEARS PASSED. SOLOGON BECAME A TRUSTED ADVISOR TO HER FATHER. SHE HAD CHANGED. HER BLUNTNESS WAS NOW HONESTY. HER DISLIKE OF CEREMONY WAS DISLIKE OF PRETENSE, AND ALL THAT WAS A CURSE IN A MAIDEN BECAME A BOON IN A WIDOW.



"AND THEN, IN THE LAST YEAR OF THE MAGHAN CHIEFS, WAKANDA WAS ASSAULTED. MESSENGERS SPOKE OF A GREAT ARMY OVERRUNNING THE EAST.



"ALREADY THE FOURTH DYNASTY HAD SURRENDERED. THE BAKO WERE NOW CALLED TO DO THE SAME.



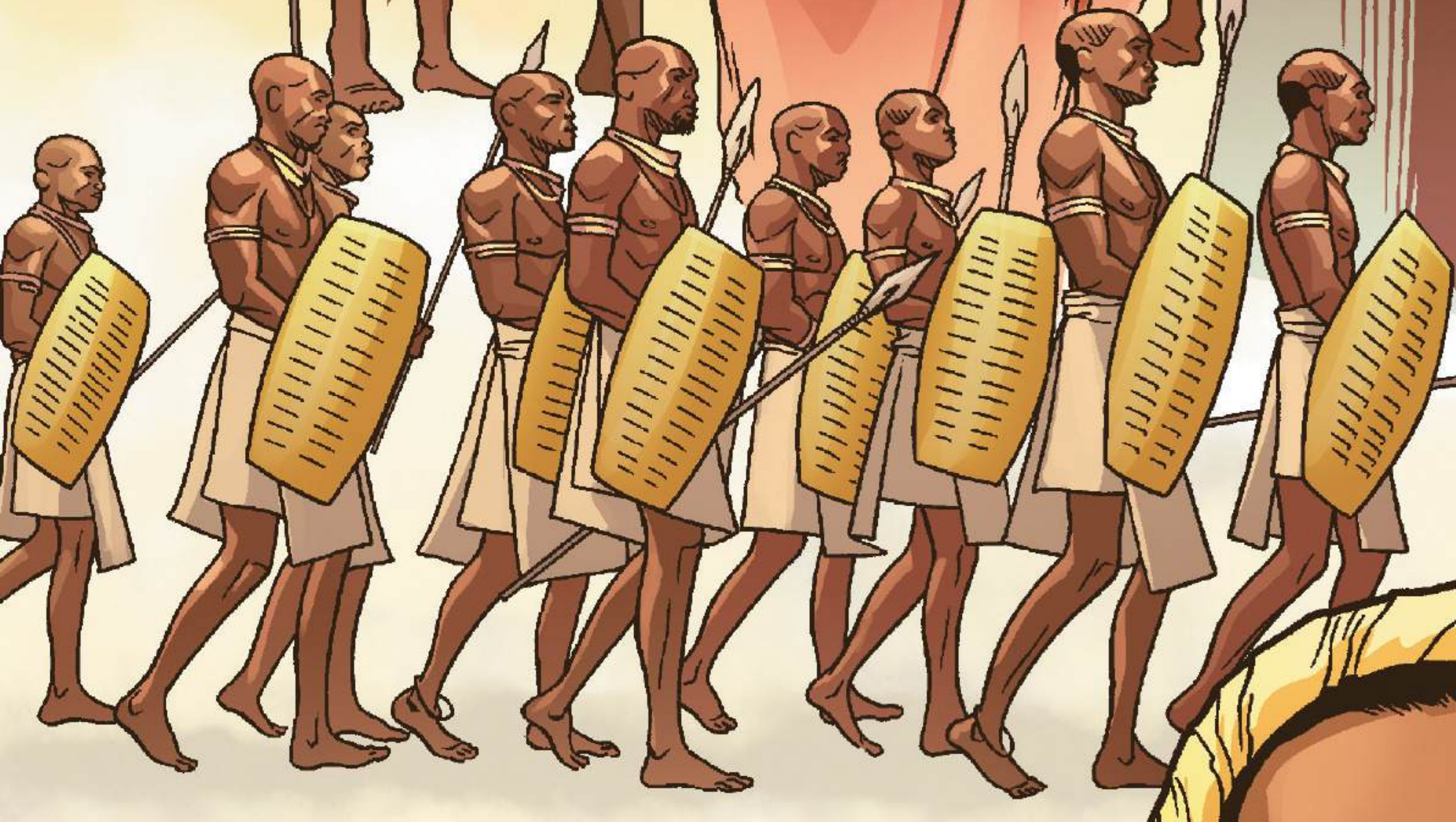
"WISE MEN DELIBERATED THROUGH THE NIGHT. AND IN THE MORNING, HAGGARD AND BLEARY, THEY TOLD THE MEN TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS."

"BUT WHEN THE COUNCIL CAME TO ANNOUNCE ITS DECISION, SOLOGON SHOUTED THEM DOWN. SHAMED THEM, SHE DID--AS WARRIORS, AS FATHERS."

"AS MEN."



"SHE VOWED TO FIGHT THE INVADERS HERSELF. THE MEN, ASTONISHED, FOLLOWED HER ONTO THE FIELD."



"AND WHEN THE DARK THREAT LOOMED, AND THE ARMY FROM THE EAST WAS UPON THEM, THEY ALL TREMBLED BEHIND SOLOGON, BUT THEY DID NOT BREAK."





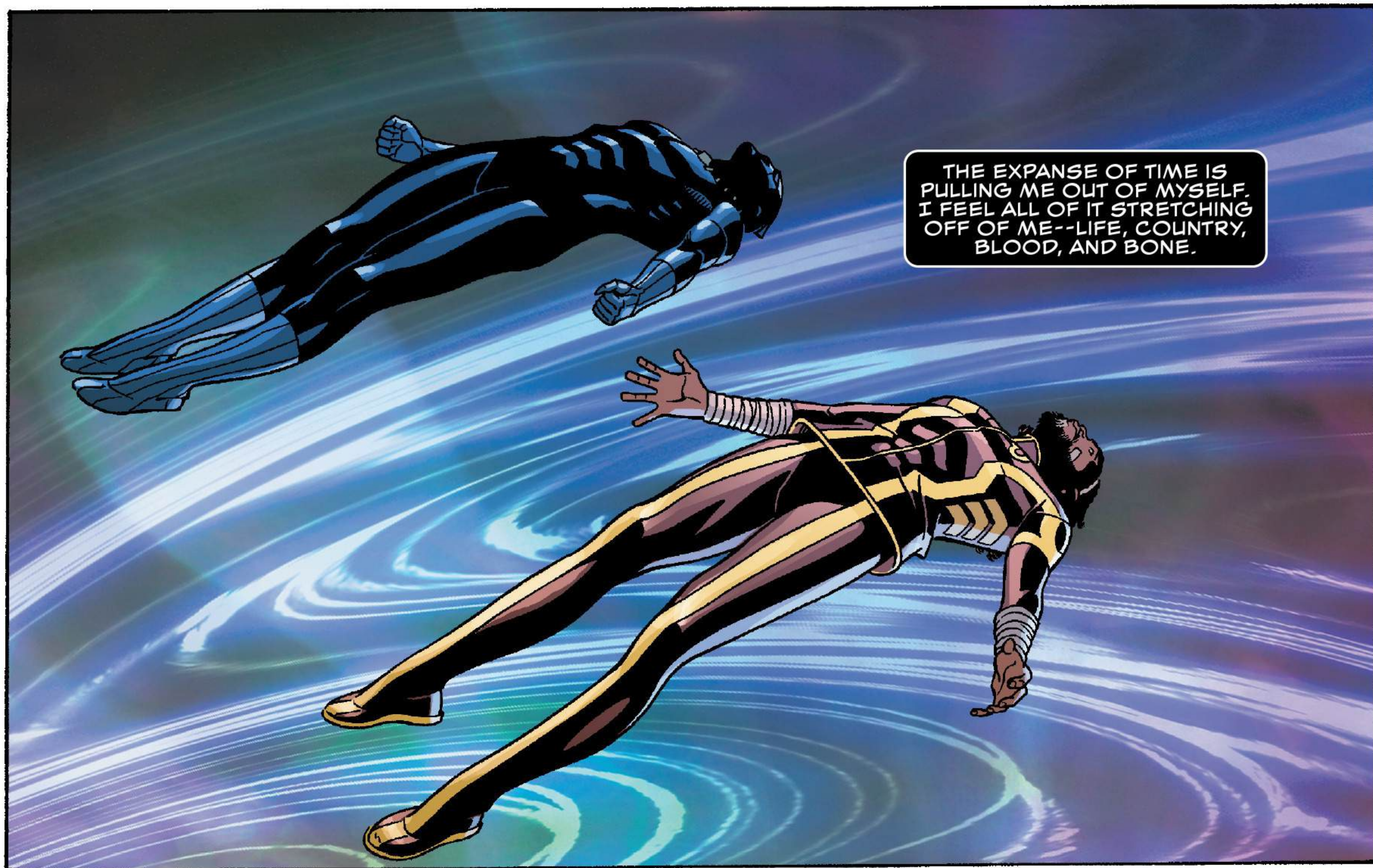
"INDEED, THEY BECAME
UNBREAKABLE."

"THAT WAS THE DAY THE FIFTH
DYNASTY AROSE, AND THE
BAKO WENT FROM
CHIEFTAINS TO KINGS."

"FOR THEY THEN KNEW
WHAT FALLEN RULERS
ALWAYS FORGET:
SPIRIT OF IRON..."



...MAKES
SKIN OF
STONE.



THE EXPANSE OF TIME IS PULLING ME OUT OF MYSELF. I FEEL ALL OF IT STRETCHING OFF OF ME--LIFE, COUNTRY, BLOOD, AND BONE.

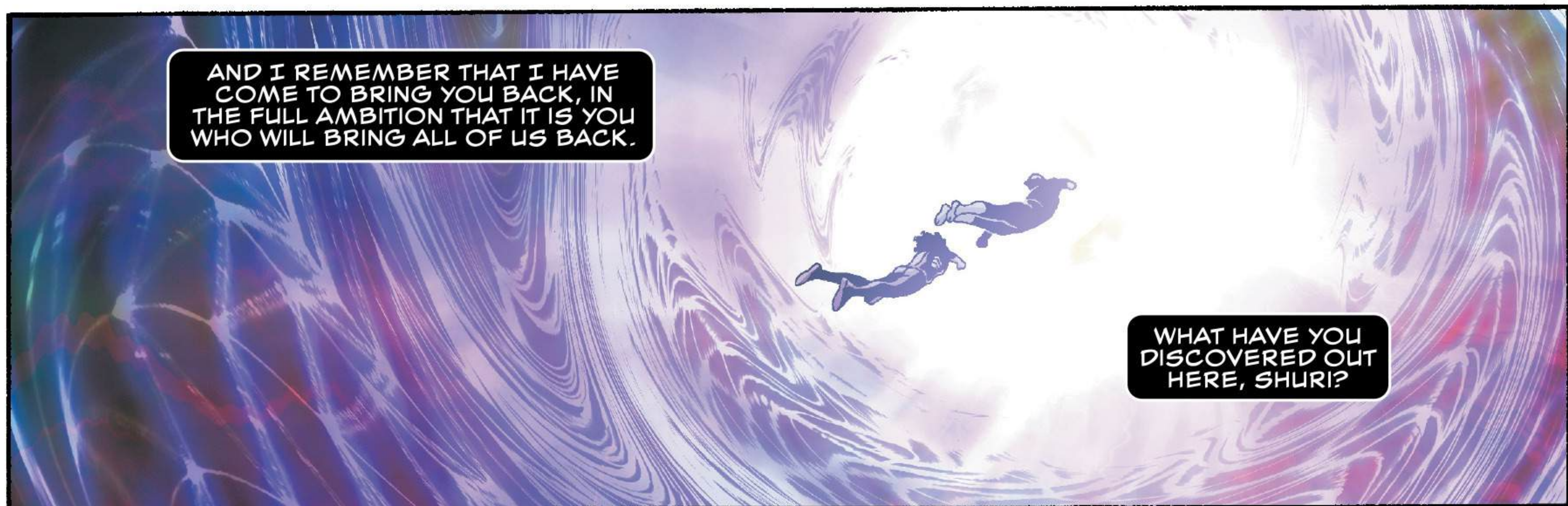


I WONDER IF THIS IS IT. IF I HAVE FINALLY FLOWN TOO FAR FROM HOME. I THINK OF RAMONDA AND ORORO. ZURI AND W'KABI. FATHER AND S'YAN.

BUT ABOVE ALL, I THINK OF YOU. AND I THINK OF DYING OUT HERE, OF DRIFTING OUT HERE, IN SEARCH OF BUT FAR AWAY FROM YOU.



AND THEN I SEE THE ANCIENT PLACE, THE FUTURE PLACE. AND I KNOW YOU ARE THERE.

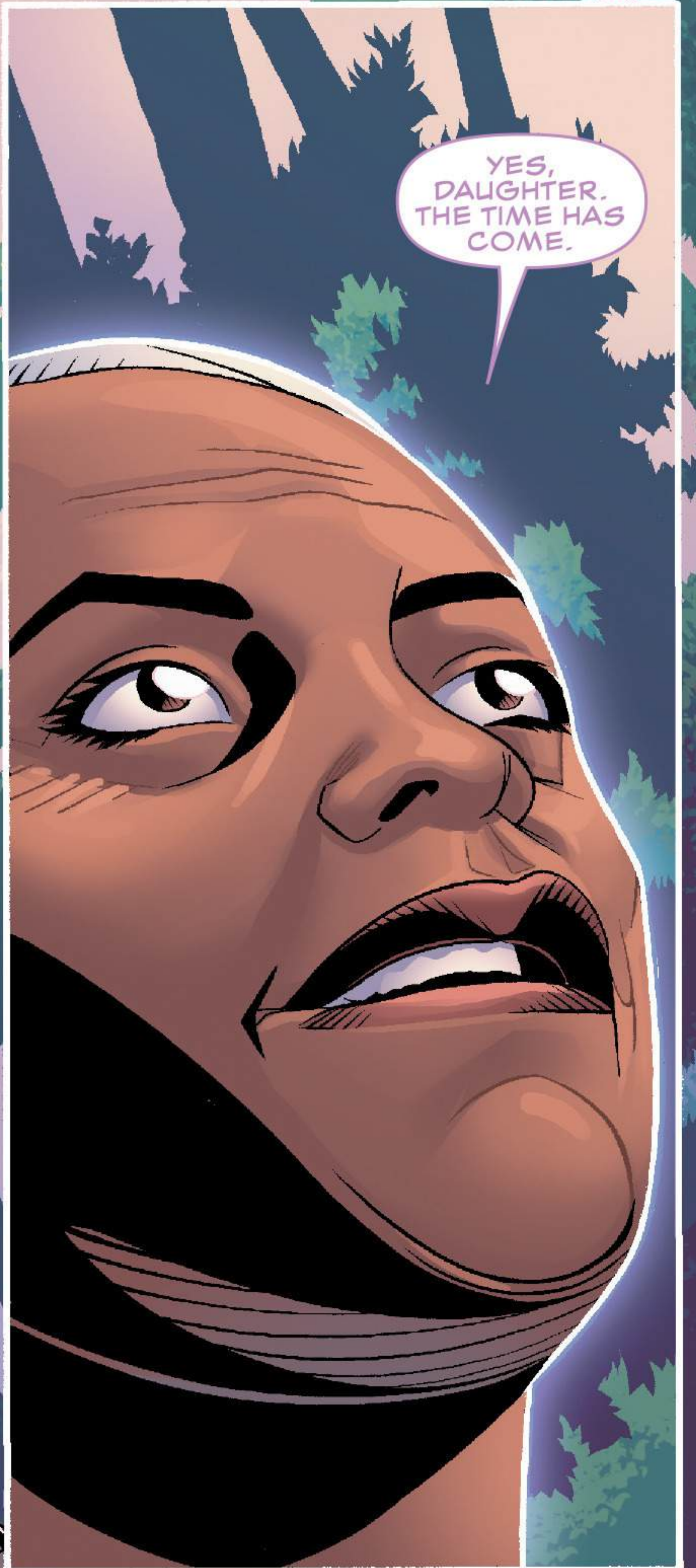


AND I REMEMBER THAT I HAVE COME TO BRING YOU BACK, IN THE FULL AMBITION THAT IT IS YOU WHO WILL BRING ALL OF US BACK.

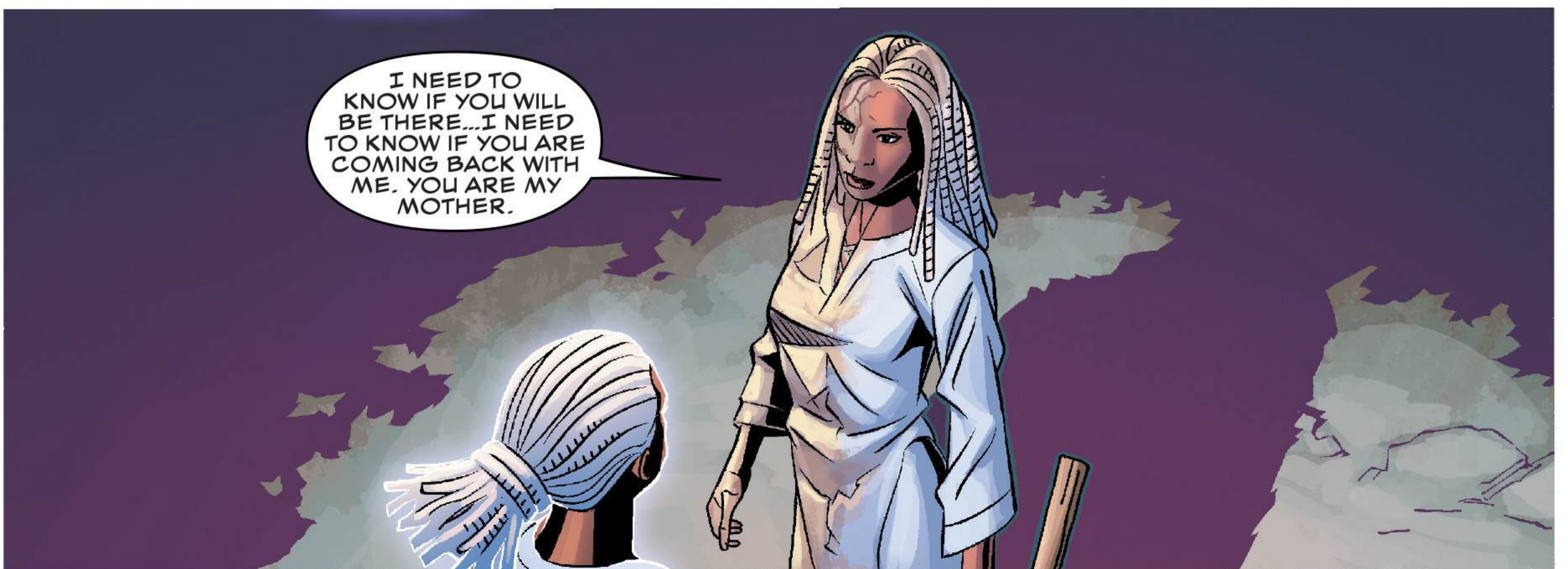
WHAT HAVE YOU DISCOVERED OUT HERE, SHURI?



MOTHER,
IT IS THEM.



YES,
DAUGHTER.
THE TIME HAS
COME.



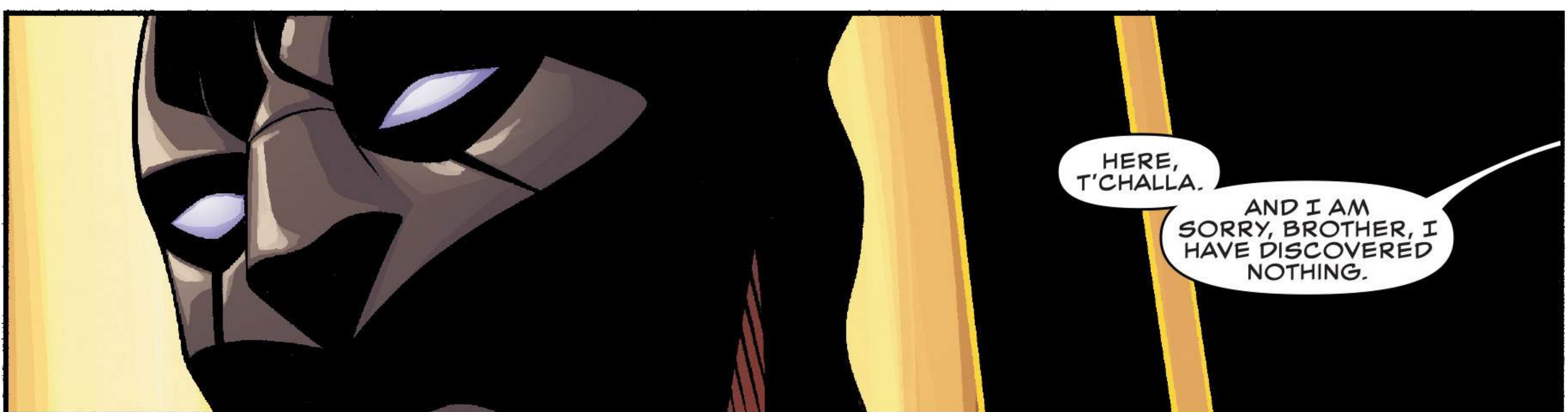
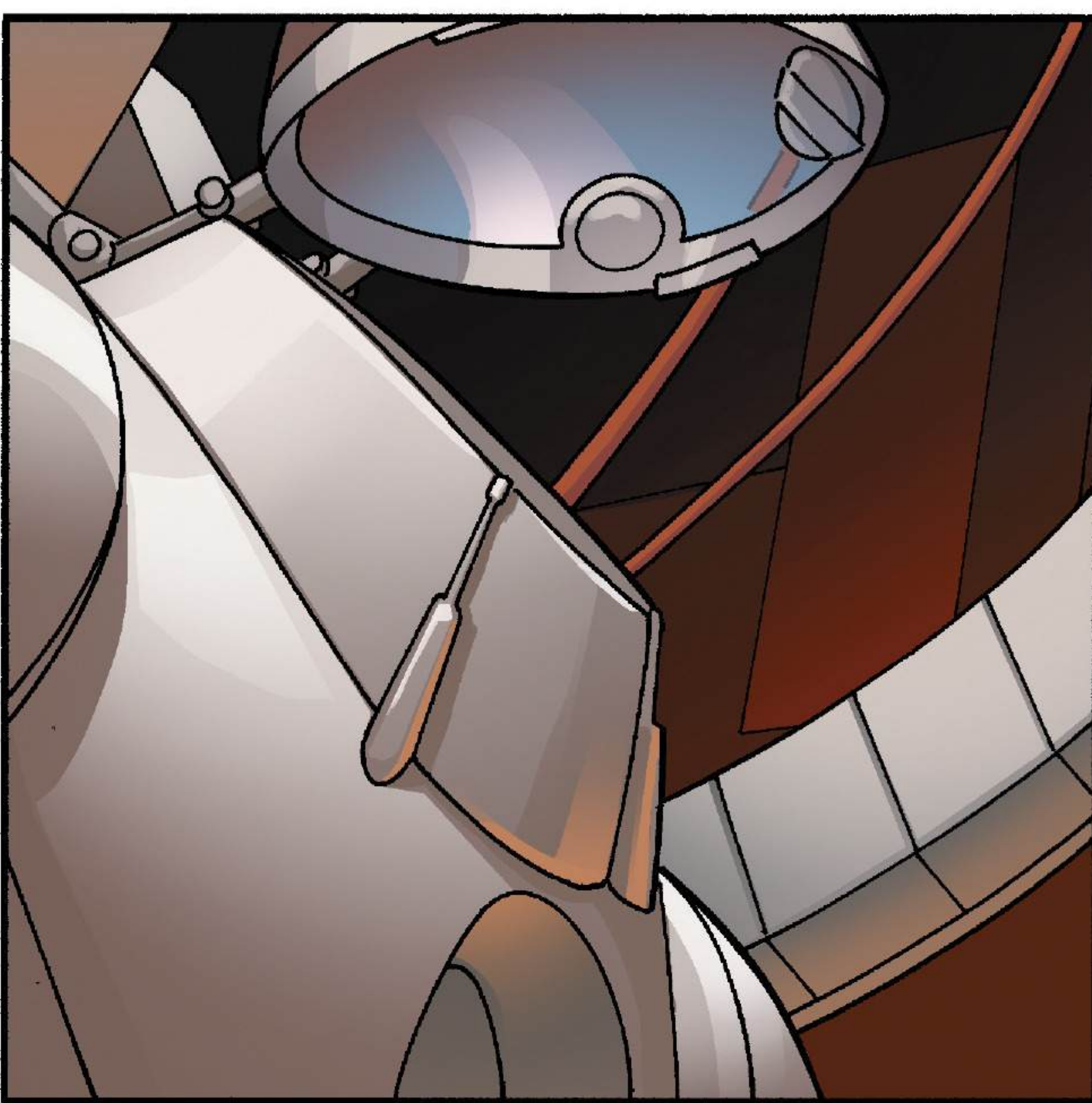
I NEED TO
KNOW IF YOU WILL
BE THERE...I NEED
TO KNOW IF YOU ARE
COMING BACK WITH
ME. YOU ARE MY
MOTHER.



OH,
DAUGHTER...

...I AM ALL
OF YOUR MOTHERS,
NOT JUST ONE OF THEM.
AND I WILL ALWAYS BE
WITH YOU. BECAUSE I
HAVE ALWAYS BEEN
WITH YOU.







BUT
I REMEMBER
EVERYTHING.

TO BE CONTINUED

DOWN WITH THE KING



Send your emails to mheroes@marvel.com, and mark them "okay to print."

Hi Mr. Coates,

The first six issues of BLACK PANTHER have been nothing short of stellar from the overall presentation, art, and story. All the hard work the entire BP team is putting in is paying off in spades. I was captivated by the conversation between T'Challa and Kwabena Ware in issue #5. I thought it perfectly conveyed the divide between the king and his people, while at the same time the internal faith the people still have in their king and his ability to inspire despite everything that's happened.

I believe more interactions like this is how he will reform the building blocks of trust and unity with his people again. Having said that, I wanted to know if a similar convo between T'Challa and the equally diligent and prideful Midnight Angels is forthcoming?

Marcus Green
Baton Rouge, LA

That conversation was a real learning experience for me. It initially ended, in an earlier draft, in a much more simplistic manner. But writing and re-writing it showed me how a hero can really be a hero without punching anyone. It's T'Challa showing why he's king, and how he's managed to remain king. It's a highlight, for me, in the ongoing process of learning to write comics.

Hey, Mr. Coates!

I have been a longtime Marvel fan, but I've recently just started reading comics, and, boy, am I glad I chose BLACK PANTHER to be one of my first. I'm 14 years old, and I gotta say, your run is helping me learn all sorts of stuff I didn't expect to learn from a comic book, and it's opened up a new perspective in me with its political aspect.

Now, I'm even more excited after #6 because more of my favorite heroes are coming into the book! I was shocked that The Crew will be in the next issue. I hope they'll be staying for a few issues and not just one.

Finally, I want to thank you for opening up my world more than I ever thought. I learned about African history in school last year, and this book actually lets me look back on those things. Now, I'm learning about what makes a nation, and this book still continues to be as relevant to me as ever.

More power!
Cris Jericho Cruz
Philippines

T'Challa's for the kids, Cris! No, all jokes aside, glad you're reading and glad you're enjoying. Be sure to dip into some of the other comics here at Marvel. DARTH VADER just wrapped up, but if I were you I'd go back through the archives on that one. It's spectacular.

Hello Mr. Coates and team

Firstly, congratulations on the superior job you have done in repositioning the Black Panther mythology into not just the upper echelons of Marvel Comics but elevating the standards in fictional literature in general. This is truly the thinking person's comic. I delayed writing in simply because I've been disappointed with how T'Challa and Wakanda had been (mis)treated since DOOMWAR, and even though I'm aware of your brilliance as a writer, I didn't want my overexcitement and satisfaction after reading issue #1 to get the better of me too soon. However, six issues in at the time of writing this, I just had to convey my appreciation for your work on this book. Kudos to you and your team for such an impeccable and phenomenal job, in not only returning legitimate interest and majesty to the mythology but for injecting something more, something profoundly, organically cultural and intellectual that elevates the content and never underestimates but encourages and challenges the reader. As a Nigerian, it makes me tremendously proud to see such an inherently African character in Black Panther shine and at the forefront of what Marvel is doing. Keep up the excellent craftsmanship of your writing. You're an inspiration.

Amandla!
Jide Akindele

Amandla, indeed. I've tried to have Wakanda, and T'Challa, reflect many of the traditions of the black diaspora, from the continent to the Caribbean. But it's always great to hear that it's resonating for Africans themselves. T'Challa, somewhat problematically, is a creation of the Western imagination. I've tried to write in such a way that doesn't infantilize the continent from which he hails.

Hey team,

Loving absolutely everything you are doing with the BLACK PANTHER

series. Keep up the great work you all are doing. Never leave us. Lol. The artwork is beautiful and the writing, phenomenal. I just have one request. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, put T'Challa and Ororo Munroe, a.k.a. Storm, back together. They have a long, beautiful history, and by T'Challa's own admission in issue #4, he is still in love with her. Please set the world back right.

Give Wakanda its queen back.

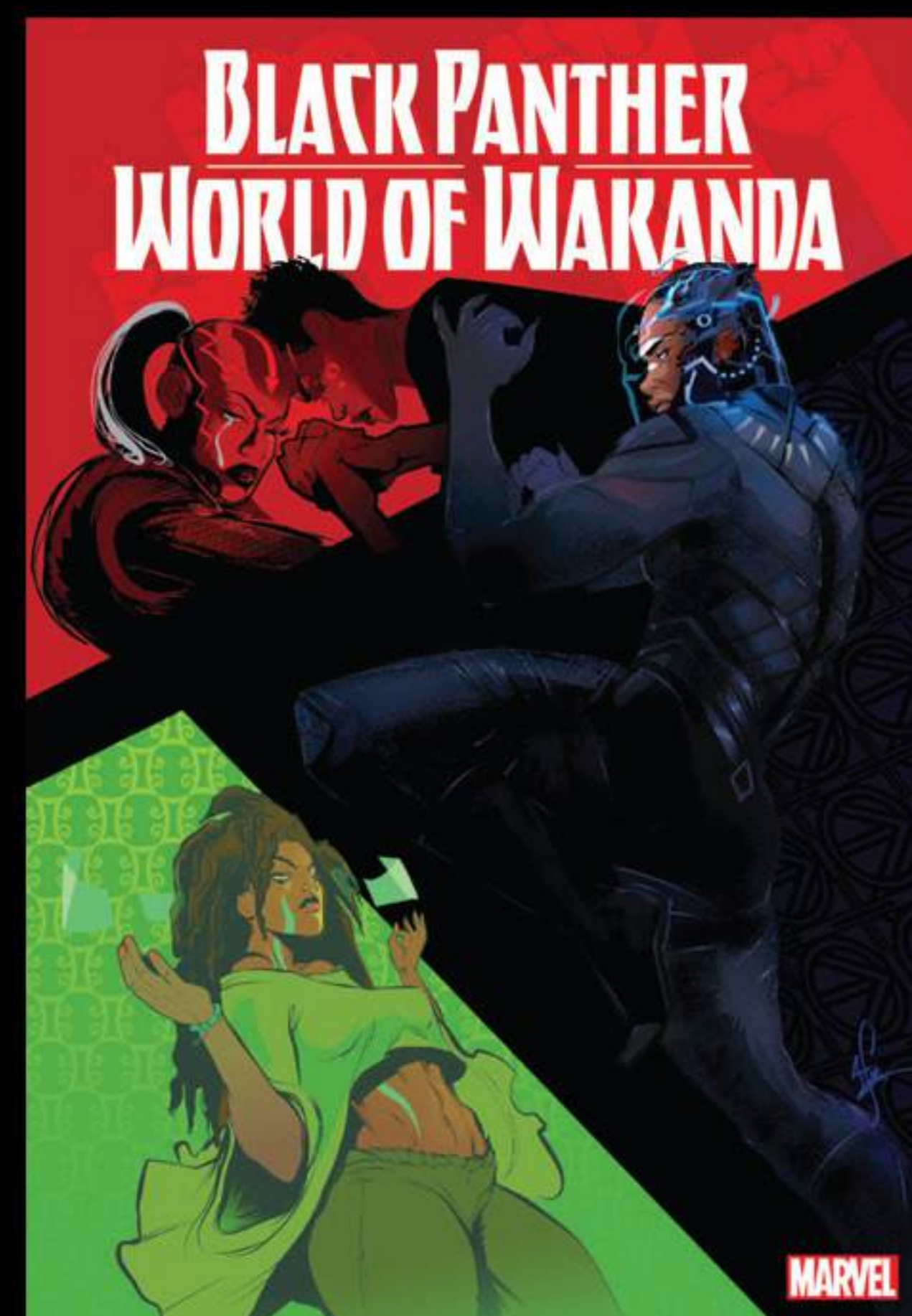
J

Yeah, there's a lot of fan energy for a reunion, I know. I think what you'll see with Storm and T'Challa is something I've tried to do in every other facet of the book—make history matter. And so there's history between them—a long one. Expect that to be an issue and expect Storm, given her place in the book before I came on board, to be around.

Well, that does it, Wakandans. Look out for issue #9 in December. Hey! Shuri's back and she's taking names. -T



And if you haven't already, check out BLACK PANTHER: WORLD OF WAKANDA #1, on sale now!





Interview by Ben Morse

PANTHER NATION: FLATBUSH ZOMBIES

The Flatbush Zombies – Meechy Darko, Zombie Juice, and Erick the Architect—recently contributed a brand new track to our acclaimed *Black Panther: A Nation Under Our Feet* spotlight video series. We recently spoke with Erick about his favorite comics and music.

Marvel.com: In addition to now being part of the Black Panther family, you guys were already avid Marvel fans way before you got involved with this project. What comics got you hooked?

Erick: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. ALWAYS a good pick-up. I don't care what year. It's always good.

Marvel.com: Is there a particular Marvel hero you like or relate to the most?

Erick: I hate to say Spider-Man again, but, I like Spider-Man! He has a lot of human qualities even though he is radioactive. I always feel like I'm Spider-Man because he's a good person. He loves his uncle and aunt, he loves his family. He's a good, wholesome person. And he's trying to help save the world one day at a time. Some people think he's evil. Some people think he's good. I think that's like me, man.

Marvel.com: Say you could have one super-power, what would it be?

Erick: My super-power would be to read people's minds like Elliot from *Mr. Robot*. But, like, not through the computer, but telepathically read people's minds and mess people up.

Marvel.com: Switching gears to hip-hop, who are some of your biggest musical influences?

Erick: Red Hot Chili Peppers, Teddy Riley, James Brown, Pharrell Williams, Notorious BIG, Jay Z,

Nas, Seal, Amy Winehouse.

Marvel.com: What do you consider to be your proudest musical achievement in your career?

Erick: Releasing an album and debuting Top 10 has to be probably the highest. I never thought when I was a little kid that I'd be able to have an album that was at Best Buy and all over the world. Number 1 independent album as well!

Marvel.com: Finally, what up-and-coming artist do you think could be the next big thing?

Erick: Don't know that one! Ha!

DEADPOOL & THE MERCS FOR MONEY #1



Hip-Hop variant cover by **DAVID NAKAYAMA**

Visit the Flatbush Zombies at thegloriousdead.com and follow Panther Nation at marvel.com/panthernation

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JUNGLE ACTION™ FEATURING:

THE BLACK PANTHER™



YOU'RE
FINISHED
IN THIS JUNGLE,
AVENGER!

TOMORROW'S
SUN WILL RISE ON A
NEW
KING OF THE
WAKANDAS!

ME!

BUCKLER
& GIACOIA

THE MAN
CALLED

KILL-MONGER!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE BLACK PANTHER!**™

DON MCGREGOR
WRITER

RICH BUCKLER
ARTIST

KLAUS JANSON
INKER

TOM ORZECOWSKI, LETTERER
GLYNIS WEIN, COLORIST

ROY THOMAS
EDITOR

PANTHER'S RAGE

THIS LITHE, OMINOUSLY GARBED FIGURE THAT PASSES AMONG THE HIGH BRANCHES IS NOT ONE OFTEN SUBJECT TO UNREASONING, TOTAL RAGE...

...FOR THIS IS THE BLACK PANTHER, KNOWN IN THIS FERTILE, RESPLENDENT JUNGLE GLADE OF THE WAKANDIAN NATION, AS T'CHALLA...

COME, WIZEND ONE, SPARE YOURSELF PAIN!

YOU'LL ANSWER KILLMONGER'S QUESTIONS!

TAYETE! ABOVE US!

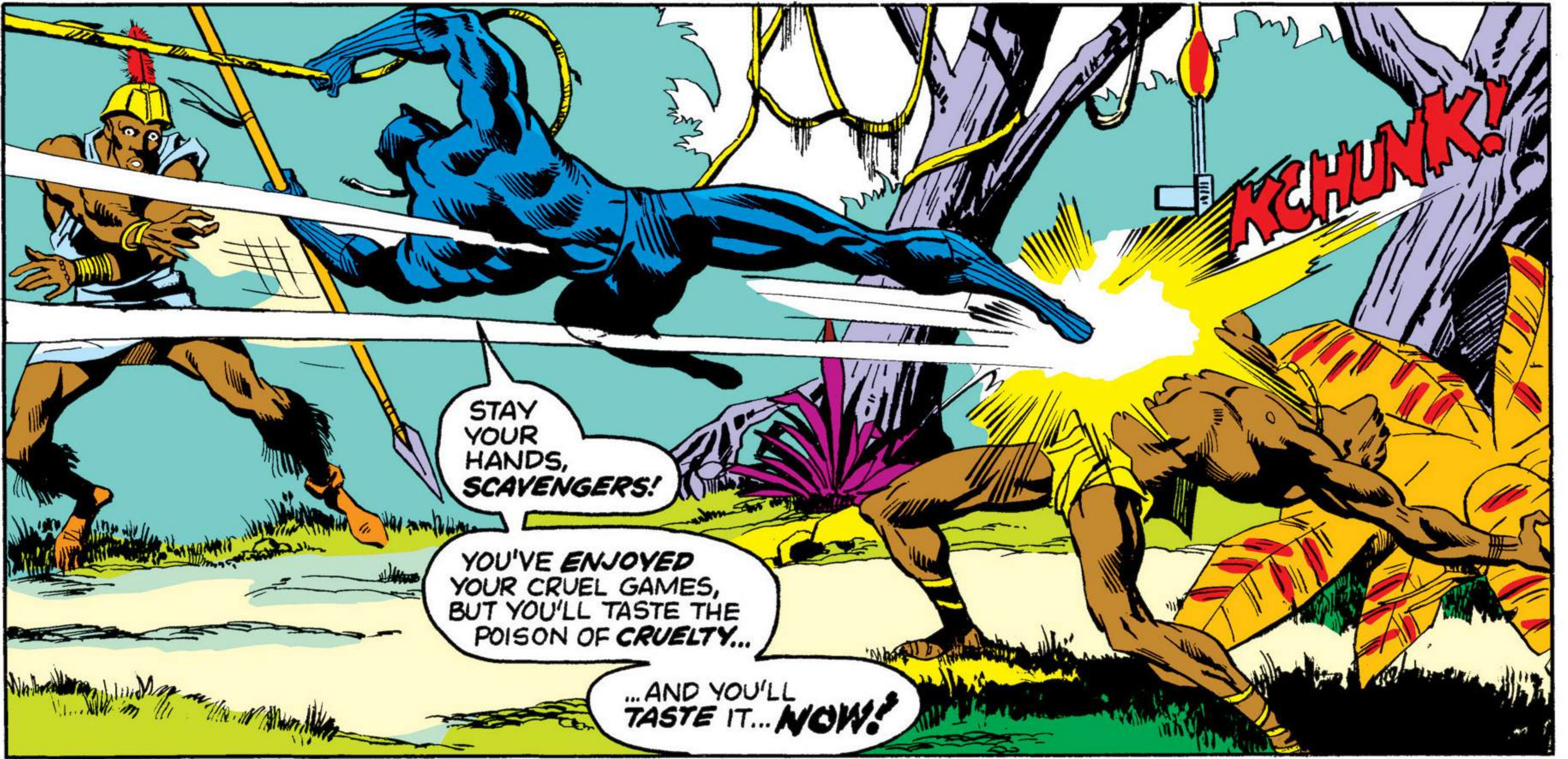
THERE'S NOTHING BUT BIRDS...

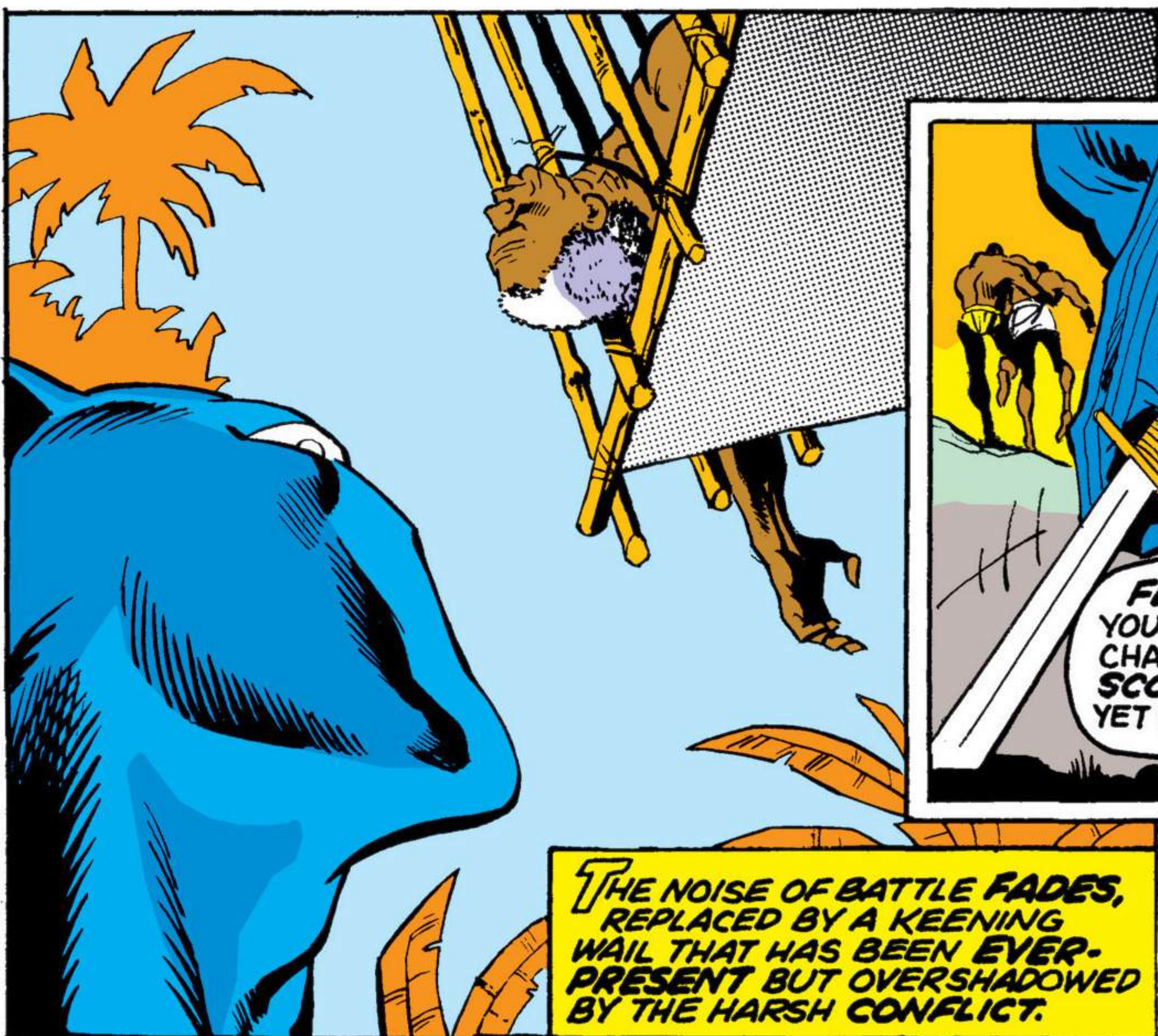
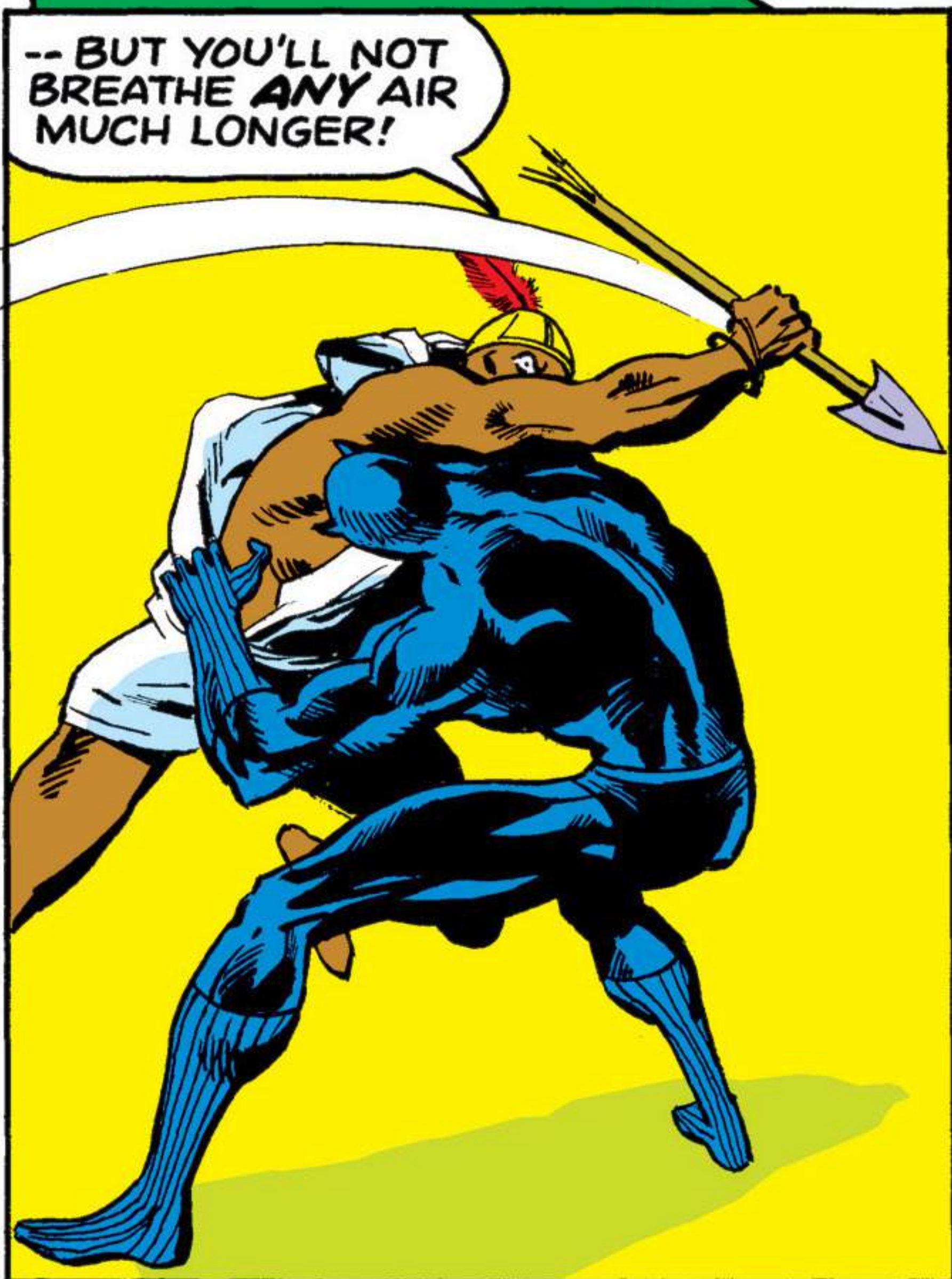
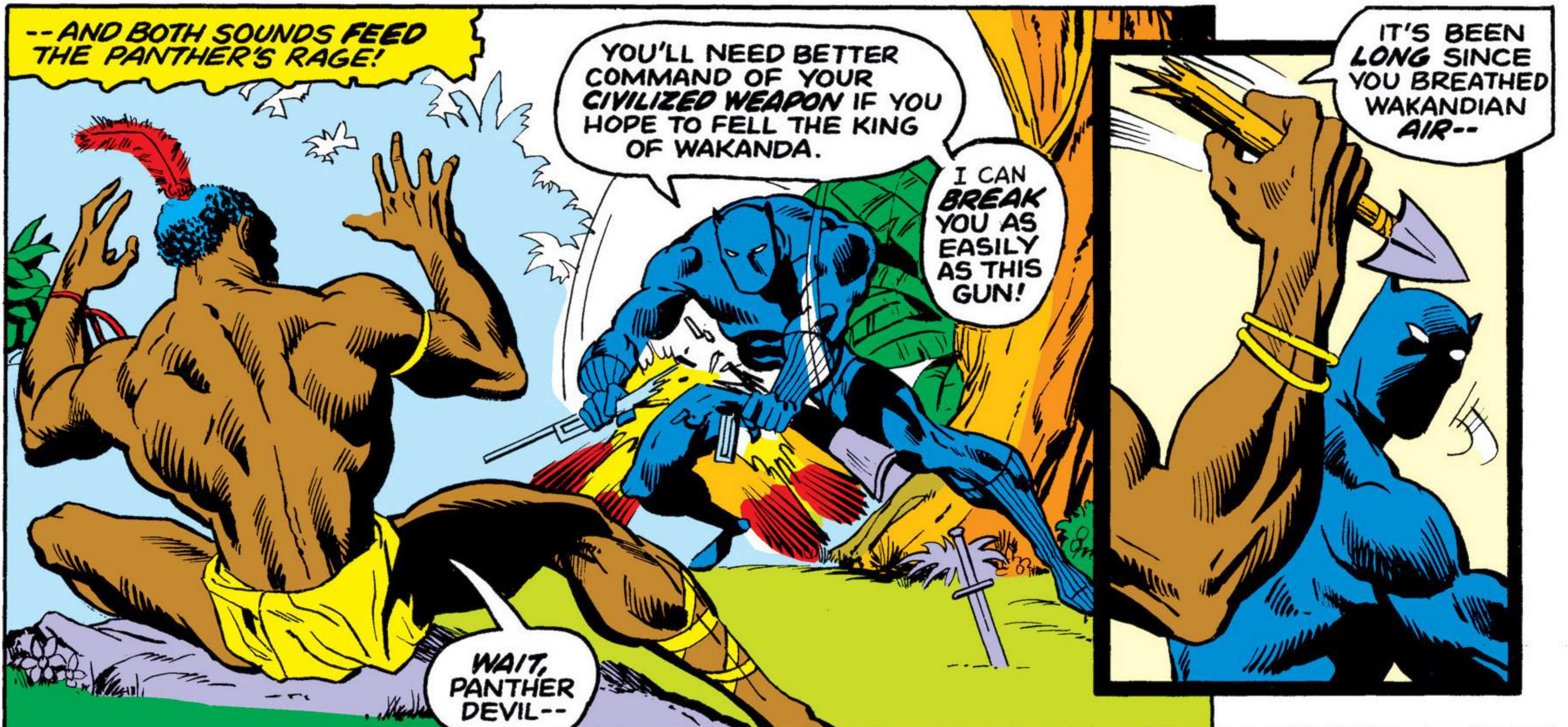
TAYETE... THIS IS NO BIRD.

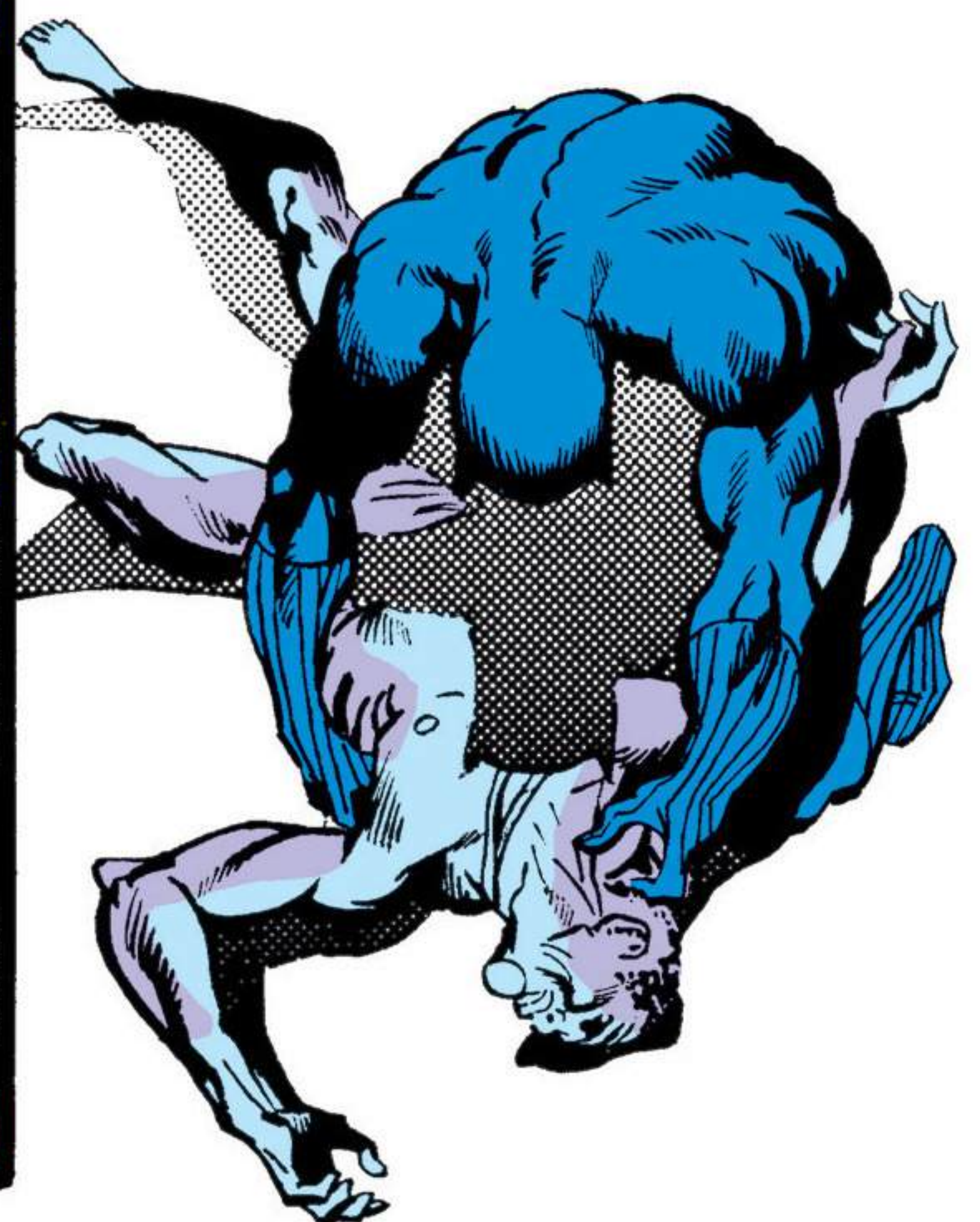
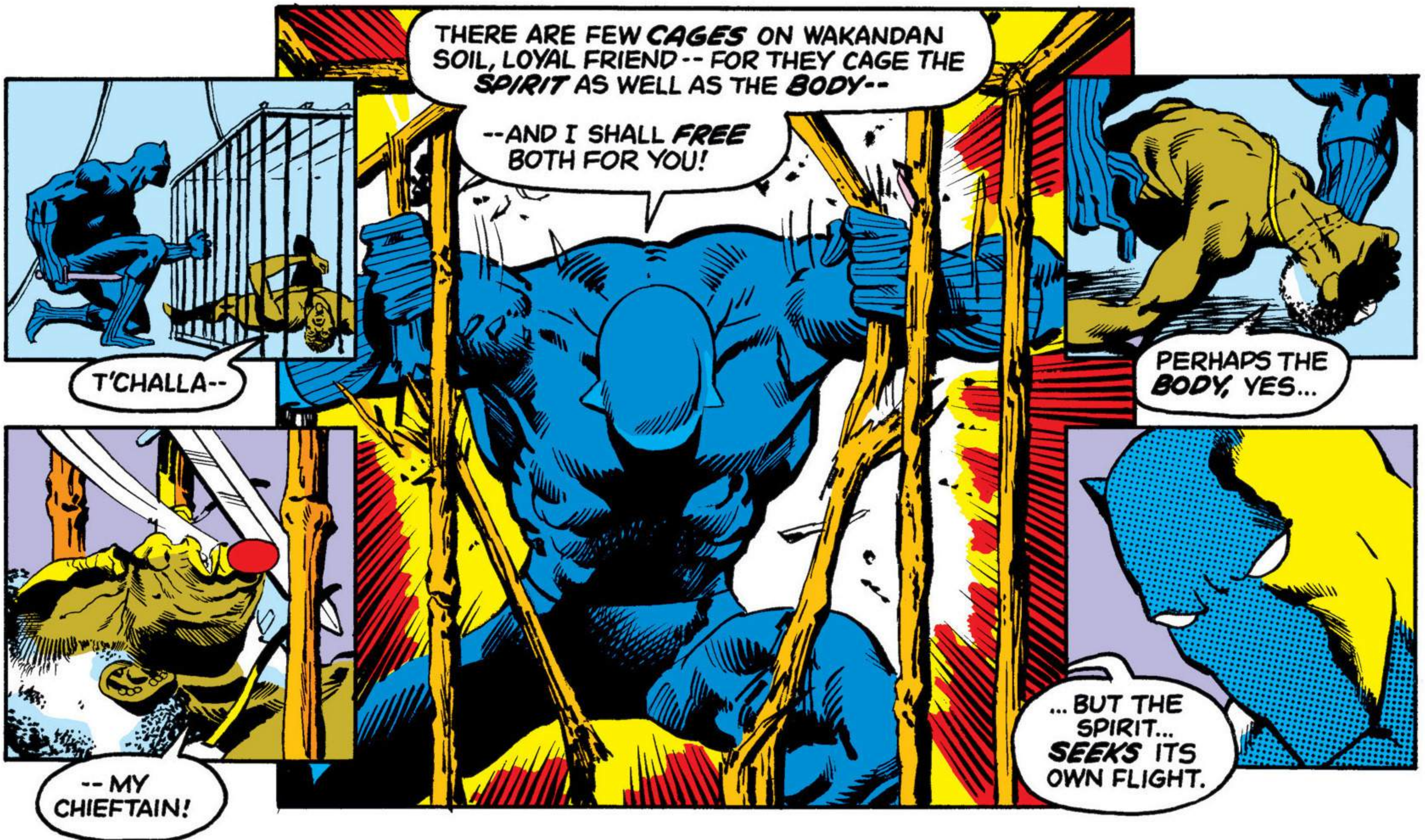
...AND HE HAS ALSO BEEN KNOWN AS A MAN OF COMPASSION... BUT NOW, HE IS FILLED WITH A SEETHING RAGE, EVOKED BY THE CASUAL CRUELTY THAT HIS GLARING, MENACING EYES WITNESS!

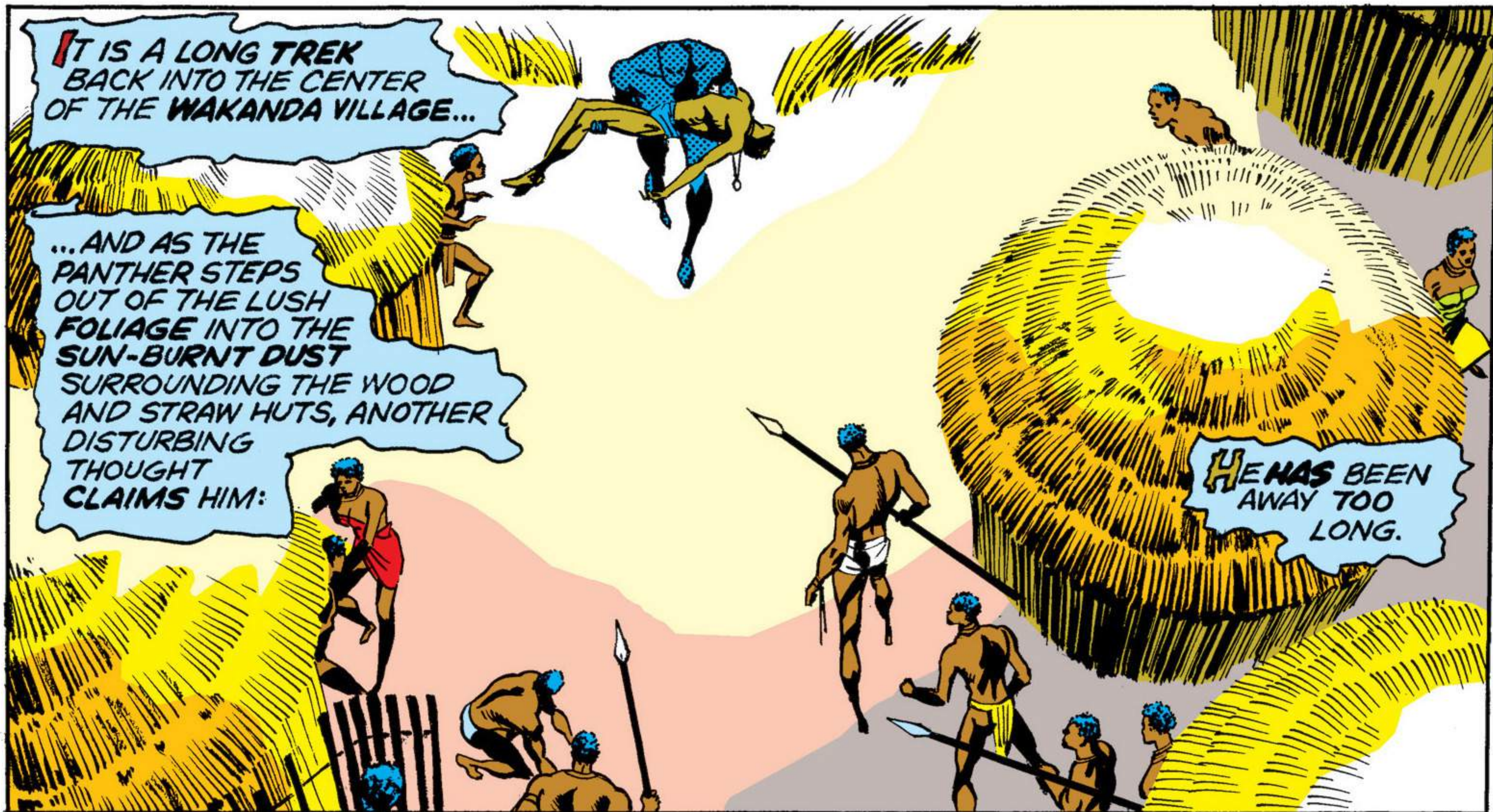
A MOMENT BEFORE, HE WAS RE-COMMUNICATING WITH THIS LAND THAT IS MORE THAN HIS IN NAME, RE-ESTABLISHING THE LINK THAT HAS WEAKENED SINCE HIS ABSENCE FROM HIS KINGDOM!

NOW THAT SENSE OF SERENITY IS SWEEP ASIDE... AND THIS REASONABLE MAN, THIS NOBLE MAN... CONSIDERS TERRIBLE RETRIBUTION!





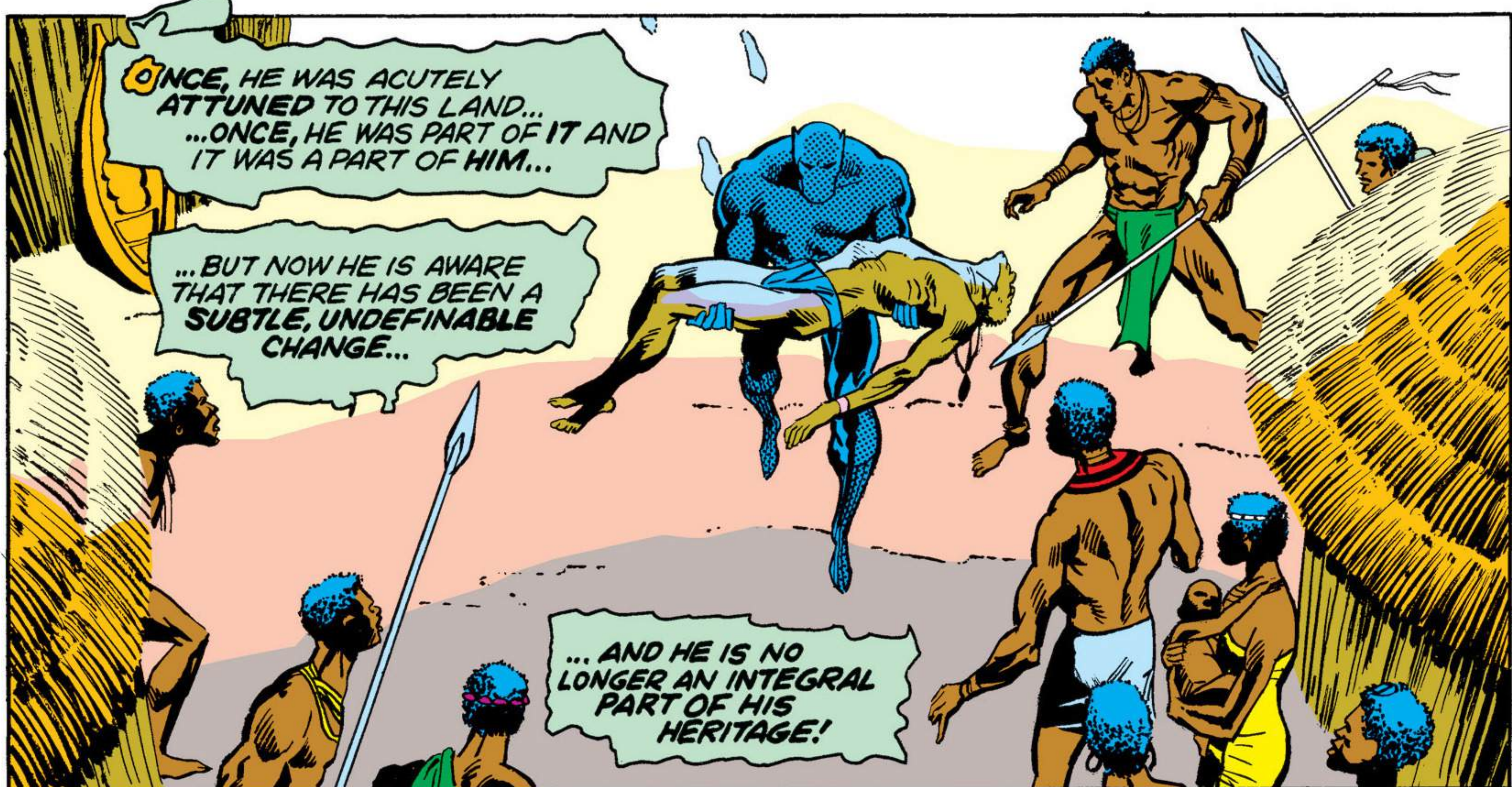




**IT IS A LONG TREK
BACK INTO THE CENTER
OF THE WAKANDA VILLAGE...**

**...AND AS THE
PANTHER STEPS
OUT OF THE LUSH
FOLIAGE INTO THE
SUN-BURNT DUST
SURROUNDING THE WOOD
AND STRAW HUTS, ANOTHER
DISTURBING
THOUGHT
CLAIMS HIM:**

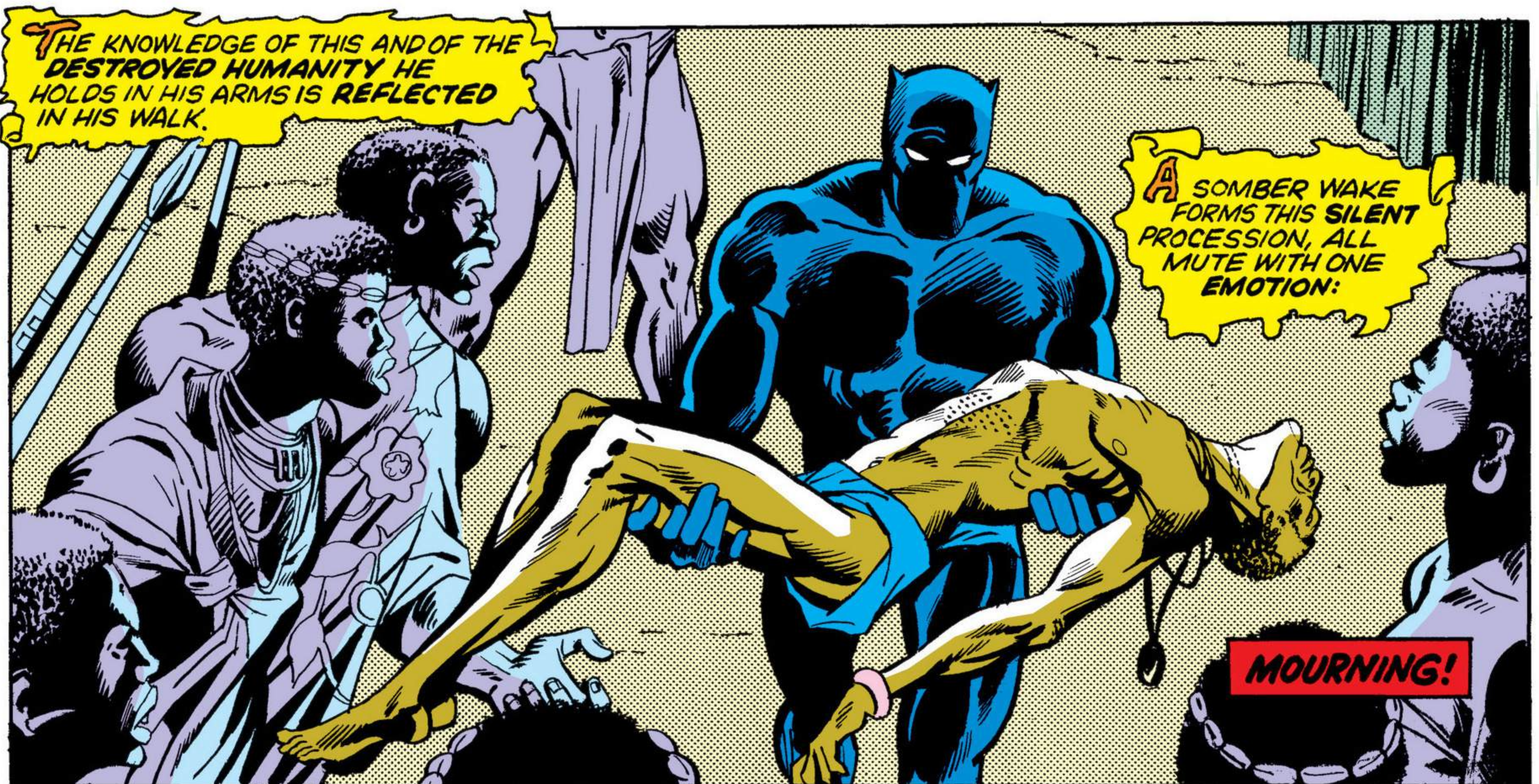
**HE HAS BEEN
AWAY TOO
LONG.**



**ONCE, HE WAS ACUTELY
ATTUNED TO THIS LAND...
...ONCE, HE WAS PART OF IT AND
IT WAS A PART OF HIM...**

**...BUT NOW HE IS AWARE
THAT THERE HAS BEEN A
SUBTLE, UNDEFINABLE
CHANGE...**

**... AND HE IS NO
LONGER AN INTEGRAL
PART OF HIS
HERITAGE!**



**THE KNOWLEDGE OF THIS AND OF THE
DESTROYED HUMANITY HE
HOLDS IN HIS ARMS IS REFLECTED
IN HIS WALK.**

**A SOMBER WAKE
FORMS THIS SILENT
PROCESSION, ALL
MUTE WITH ONE
EMOTION:**

MOURNING!

I'M NOT SURE, **W'KABI**. I HAD HOPED **YOU** WOULD KNOW MUCH OF WHAT **TEARS** WAKANDA APART.

WHAT **TEARS** AT US IS A **WHISPERED THREAT--** THAT LEAVES **TERROR** IN HIS WAKE! **ERIK KILLMONGER!**

PERHAPS IF YOU'D **SPENT** MORE TIME HERE, YOU WOULD NOT HAVE HAD TO **ASK!**

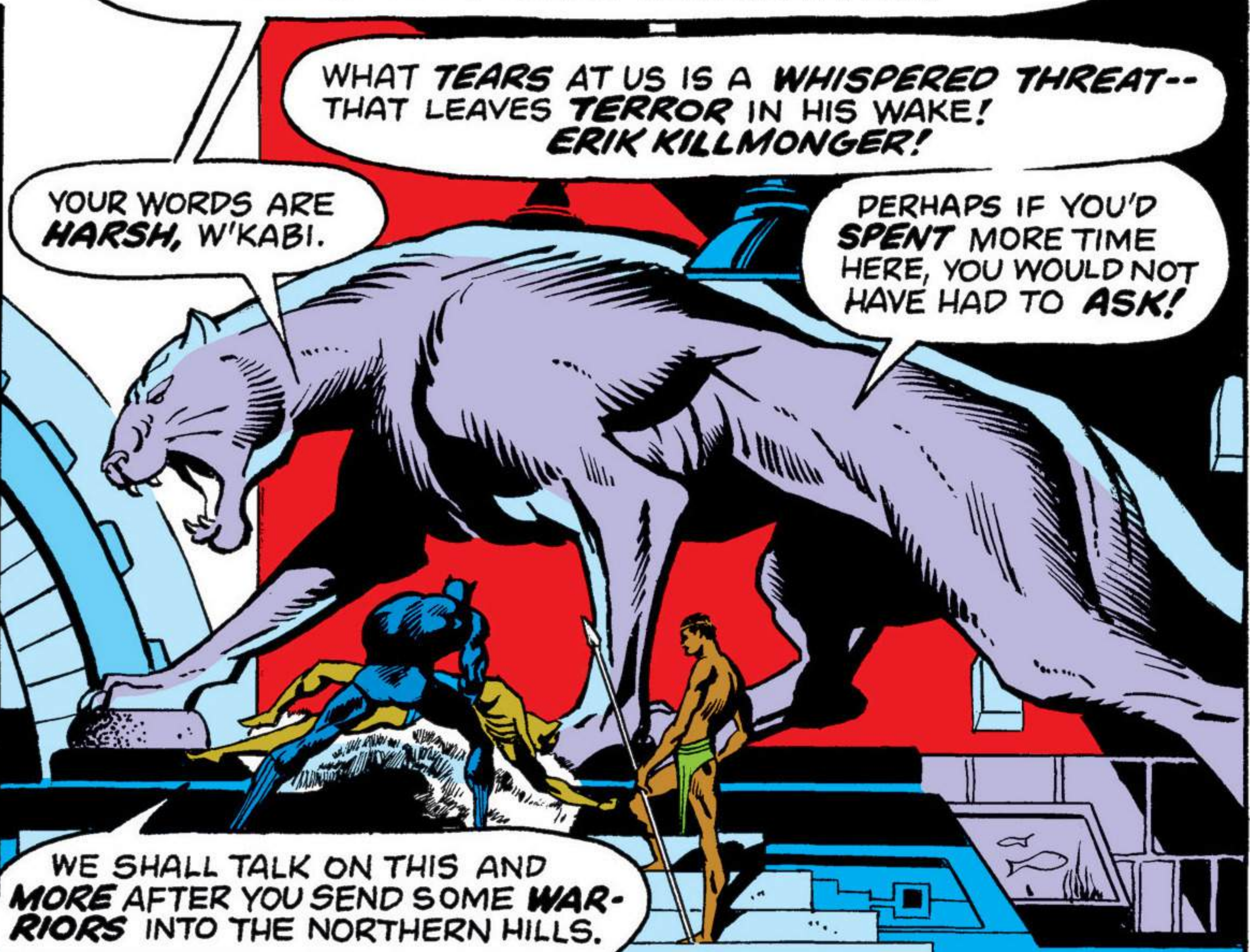
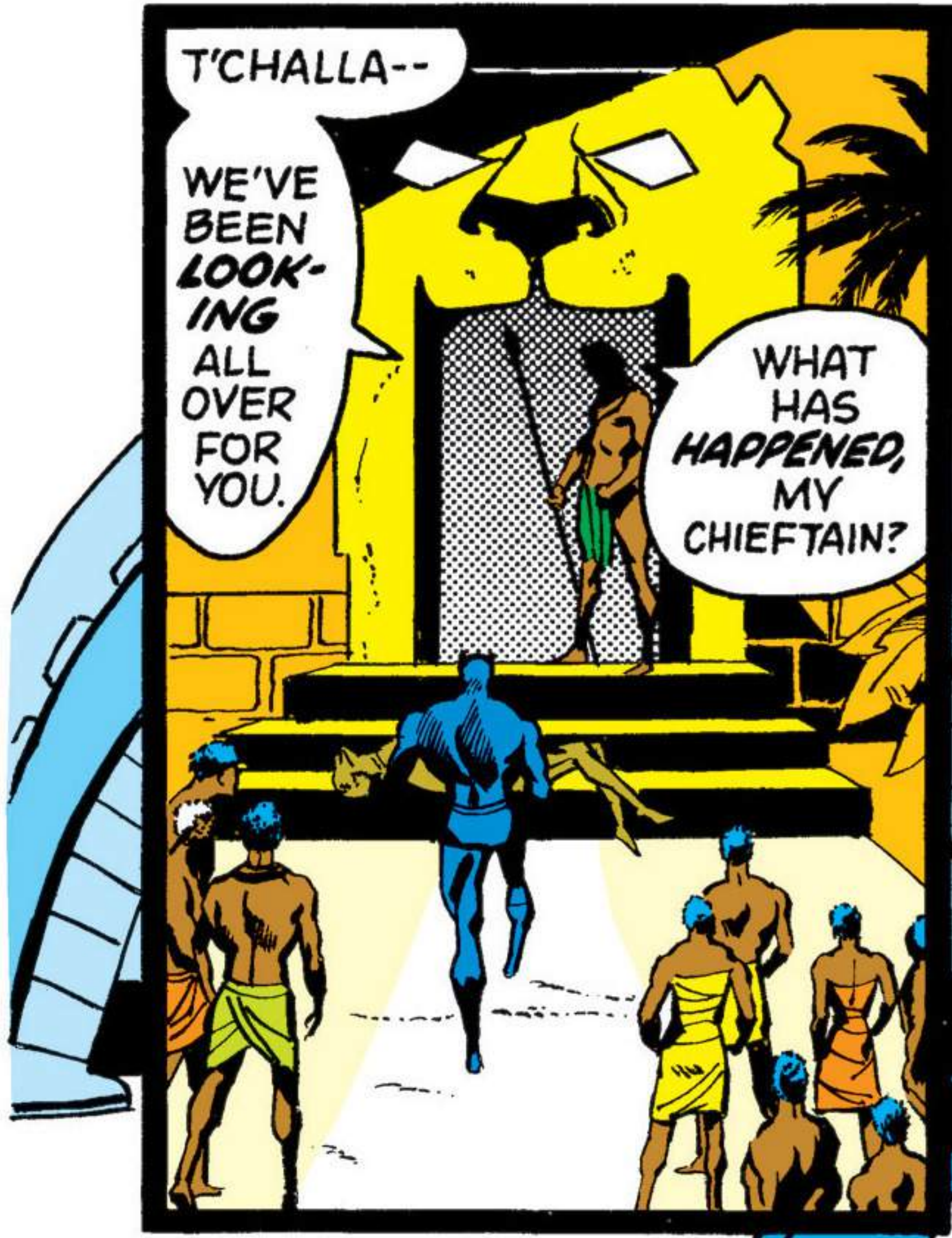
YOUR WORDS ARE **HARSH, W'KABI**.

WE SHALL TALK ON THIS AND MORE AFTER YOU SEND SOME **WAR-RIORS** INTO THE NORTHERN HILLS.

T'CHALLA--

WE'VE BEEN **LOOK-ING** ALL OVER FOR YOU.

WHAT HAS **HAPPENED**, MY CHIEFTAIN?



THEY WILL FIND A **GLADE** THERE-- AND A **MECHANICAL WEAPON**.

I WANT TO **KNOW** WHERE THE **MOUNTAIN DWELLERS** GOT SUCH A DEADLY DEVICE.

YOU DONE **PLAYING** YOUR JUNGLE LORD ACT, **TA-CHARLIE**.

WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO **PLAY JANE-MONICA?**

MY CHIEFTAIN, YOU **CANNOT** ALLOW THIS OUTSIDER TO **DISRUPT** THE DIGNITY OF THIS **COURT**.

DIG HIGH AND MIGHTY, HERE. FROM **FIRST TAKE** HE'S BEEN GIVING ME **DAGGER EYES** AND...

OOOHH!



HER NAME IS **MONICA LYNNE...** AND ONCE SHE WAS A **SONGSTRESS**, A **MINOR-GRADE ARETHA FRANKLIN...**

YOUR '**GUEST**' FROM THE FAR-AWAY SHORES APPROACHES. IT MIGHT BE **BEST** SHE DID NOT HEAR SUCH **TRIBAL CONCERNS!**

...UNTIL THE WORDS OF THIS QUIET, ELOQUENT MAN CONVINCED HER SHE MIGHT LEARN MORE ABOUT DIFFERENT LIFE-**STYLES** AND HERSELF HERE IN THIS **JUNGLE PARADISE**.

MONICA, HE **TRUSTED** ME...

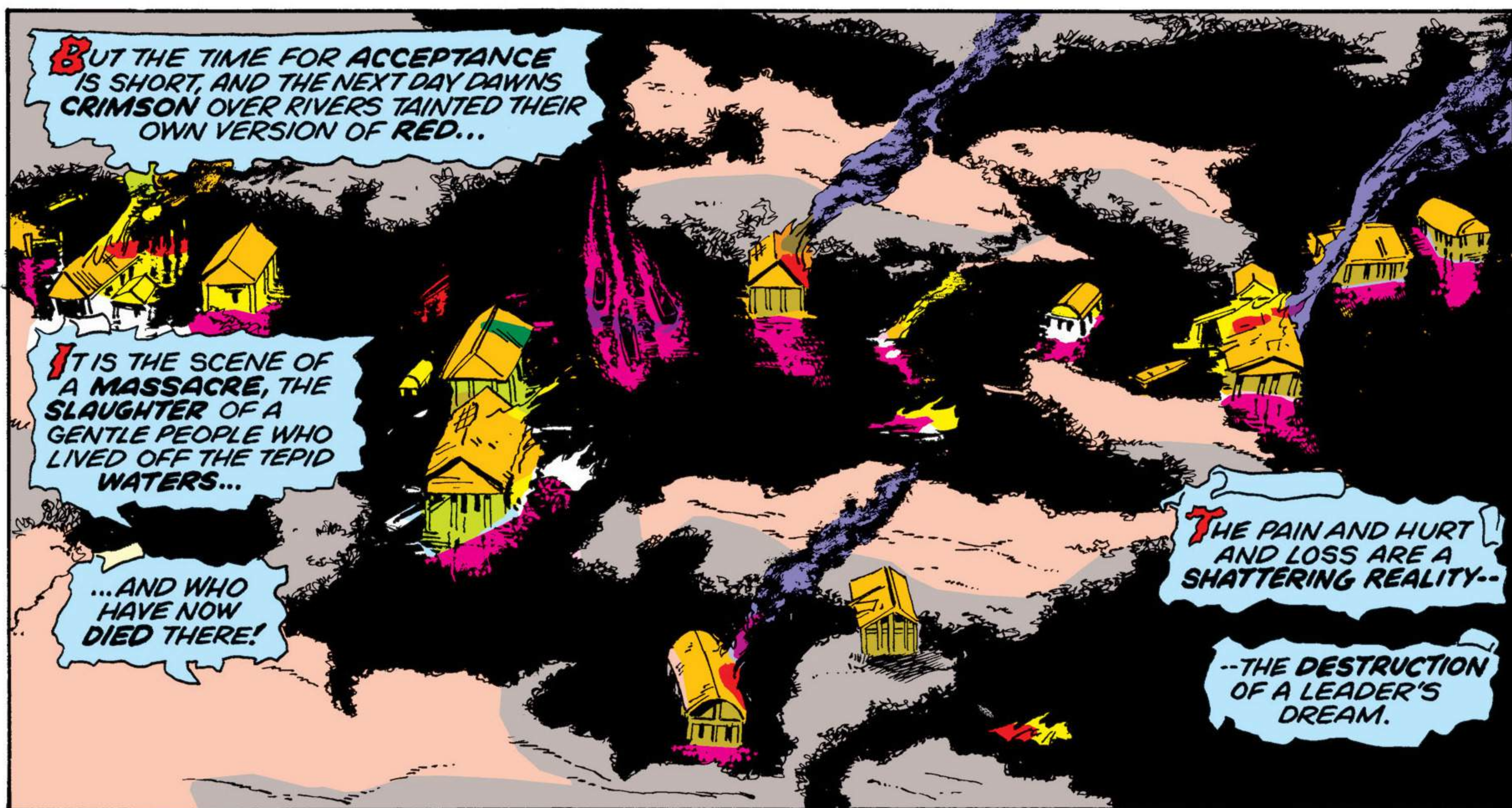
... AND I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW **HIS** NAME.

SHHH... **DON'T** TALK.

JUST TRY TO **ACCEPT** IT...

...JUST FOR NOW!





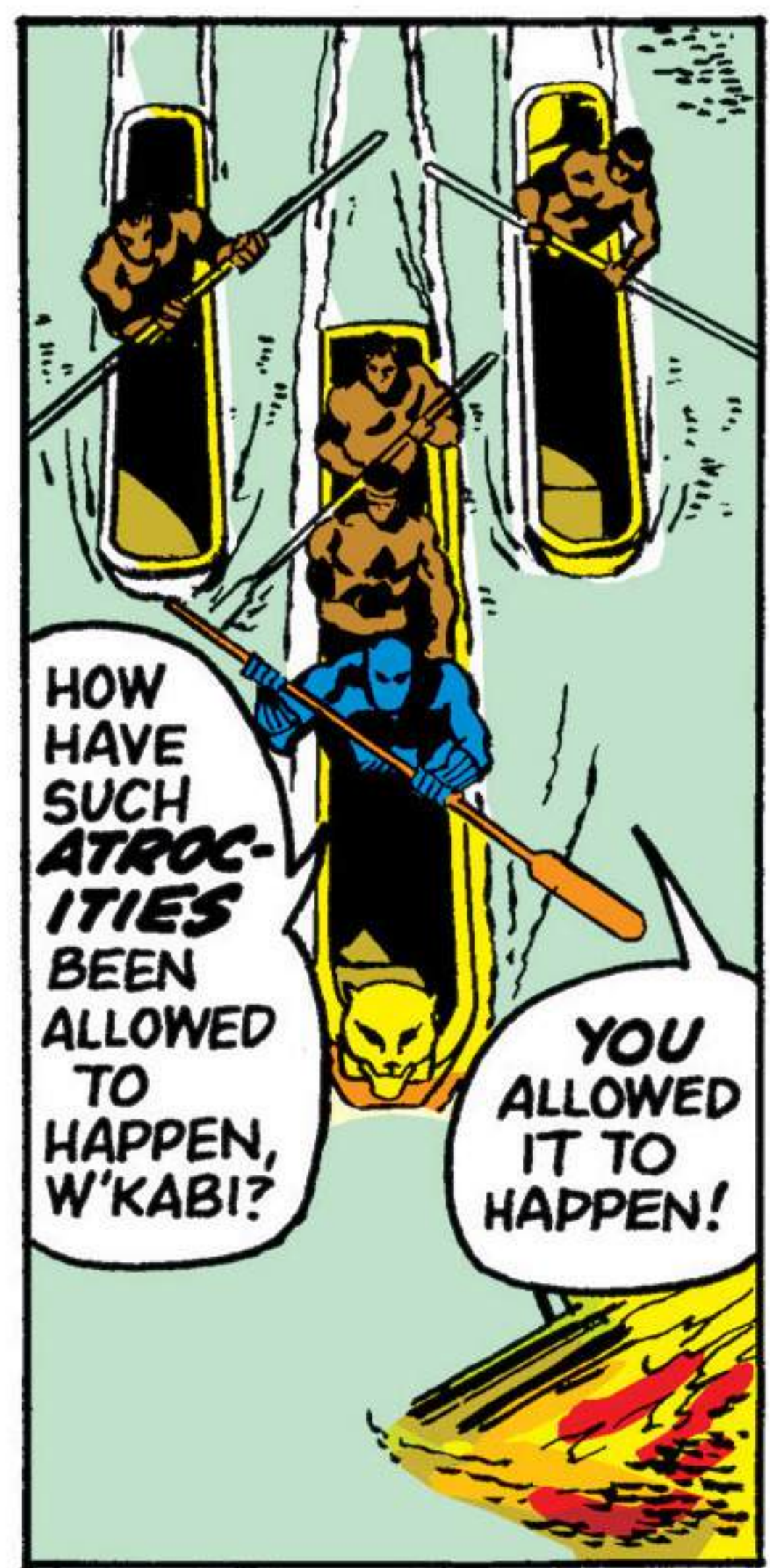
BUT THE TIME FOR ACCEPTANCE IS SHORT, AND THE NEXT DAY DAWNS CRIMSON OVER RIVERS TAINTED THEIR OWN VERSION OF RED...

IT IS THE SCENE OF A MASSACRE, THE SLAUGHTER OF A GENTLE PEOPLE WHO LIVED OFF THE TEPID WATERS...

...AND WHO HAVE NOW DIED THERE!

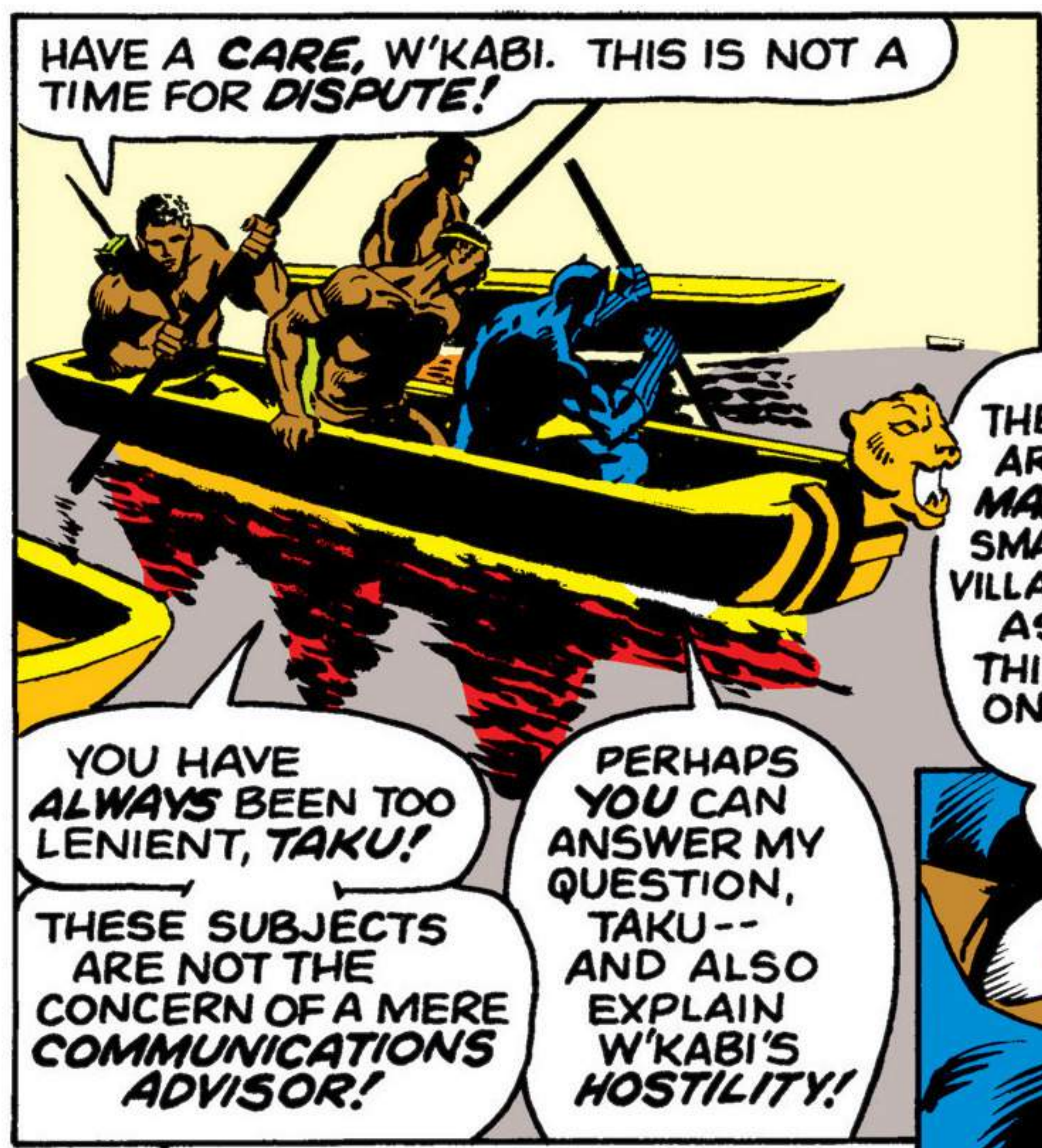
THE PAIN AND HURT AND LOSS ARE A SHATTERING REALITY--

--THE DESTRUCTION OF A LEADER'S DREAM.



HOW HAVE SUCH ATROCITIES BEEN ALLOWED TO HAPPEN, W'KABI?

YOU ALLOWED IT TO HAPPEN!



HAVE A CARE, W'KABI. THIS IS NOT A TIME FOR DISPUTE!

YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN TOO LENIENT, TAKU!

THESE SUBJECTS ARE NOT THE CONCERN OF A MERE COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR!

PERHAPS YOU CAN ANSWER MY QUESTION, TAKU-- AND ALSO EXPLAIN W'KABI'S HOSTILITY!



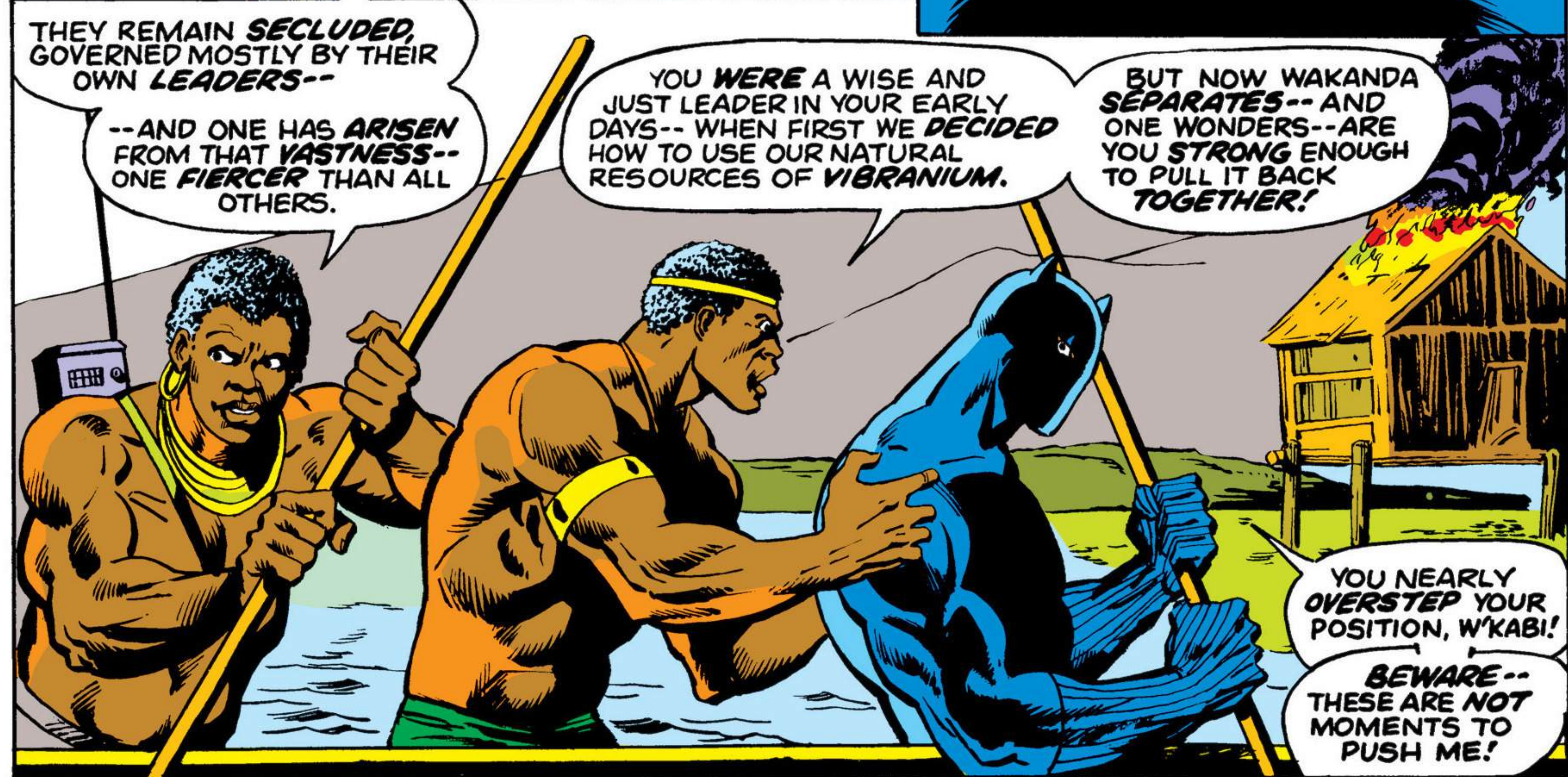
WAKANDA EXPANDS, T'CHALLA!



THERE ARE MANY SMALL VILLAGES AS THIS ONE.



CONSIDER... WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU VISITED ANY OF THE ISOLATED MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENTS?



THEY REMAIN SECLUDED, GOVERNED MOSTLY BY THEIR OWN LEADERS--

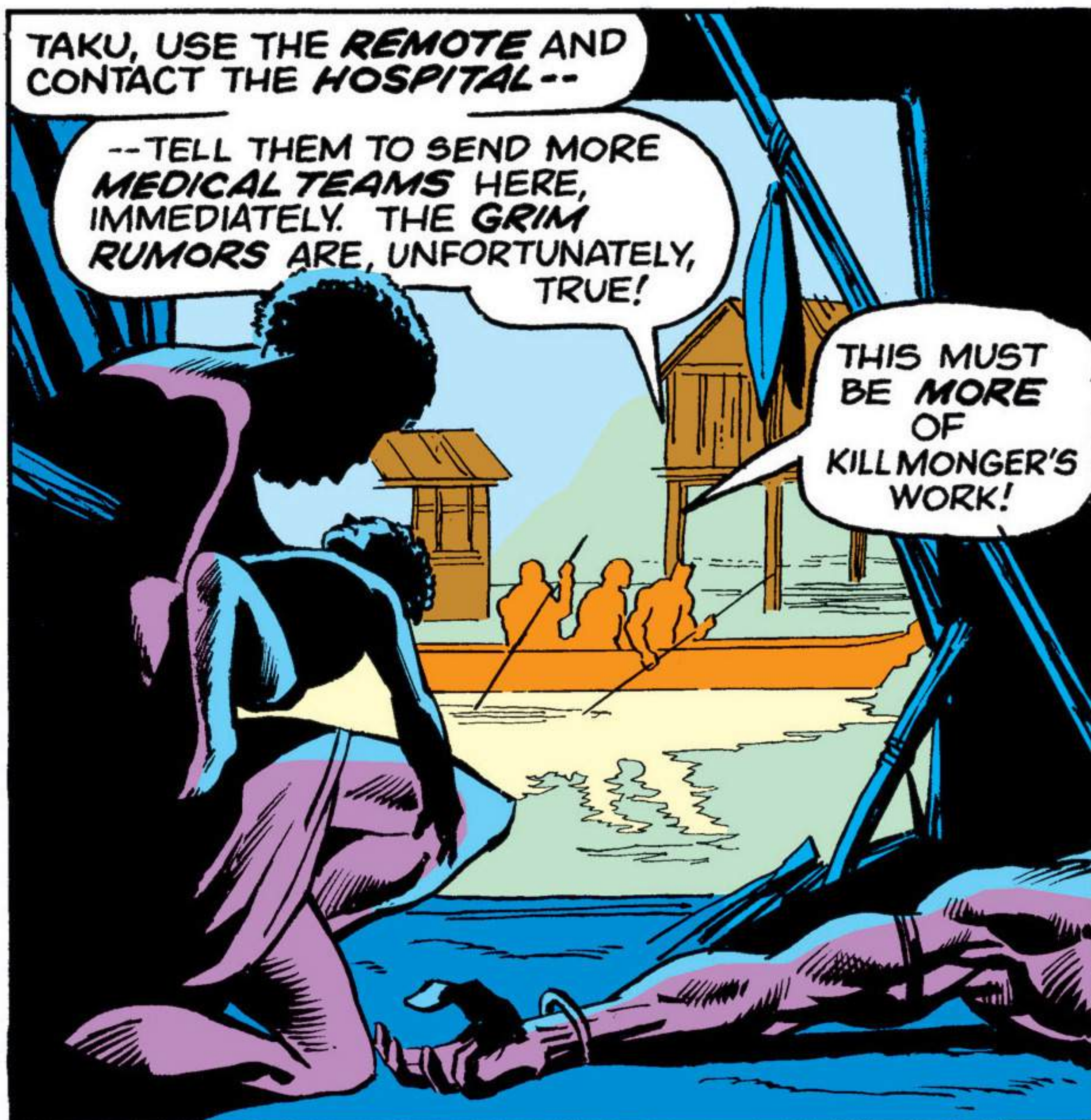
--AND ONE HAS ARISEN FROM THAT VASTNESS-- ONE FIERCER THAN ALL OTHERS.

YOU WERE A WISE AND JUST LEADER IN YOUR EARLY DAYS-- WHEN FIRST WE DECIDED HOW TO USE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES OF VIBRANIUM.

BUT NOW WAKANDA SEPARATES-- AND ONE WONDERS--ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO PULL IT BACK TOGETHER?

YOU NEARLY OVERSTEP YOUR POSITION, W'KABI!

BEWARE-- THESE ARE NOT MOMENTS TO PUSH ME!



TAKU, USE THE **REMOTE** AND CONTACT THE **HOSPITAL**--

--TELL THEM TO SEND MORE **MEDICAL TEAMS** HERE, IMMEDIATELY. THE **GRIM RUMORS** ARE, UNFORTUNATELY, **TRUE!**

THIS MUST BE **MORE** OF **KILLMONGER'S** WORK!

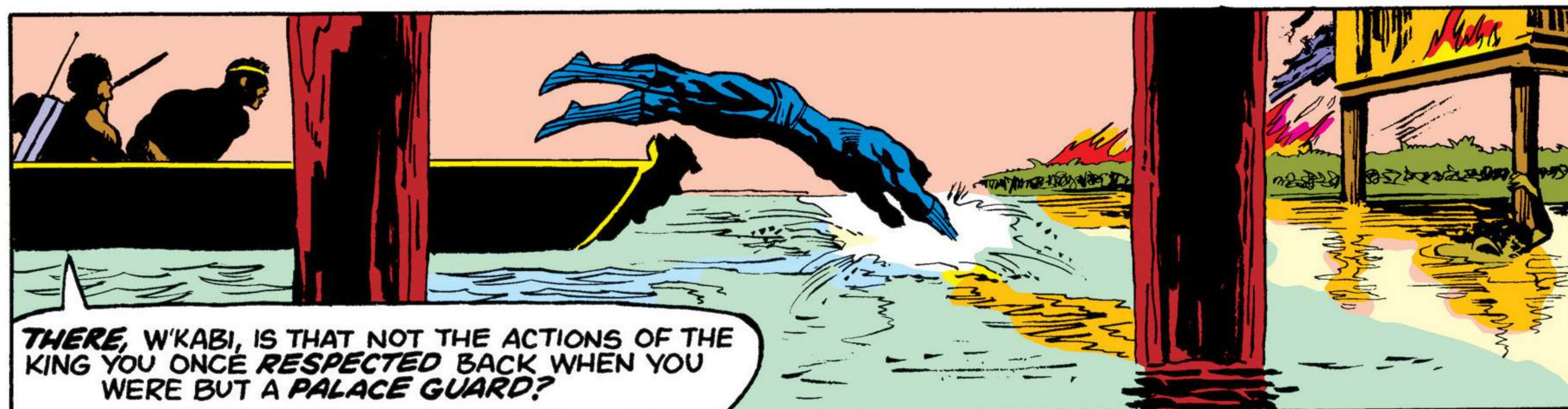


KILLMONGER! KILLMONGER! EVERY TIME I TURN AROUND I HEAR HIS NAME!

WHO IS YOUR **WHISPERED THREAT**, W'KABI?

WAIT!

MY KING, THERE'S A **SURVIVOR** AHEAD!



THERE, W'KABI, IS THAT NOT THE ACTIONS OF THE KING YOU ONCE **RESPECTED** BACK WHEN YOU WERE BUT A **PALACE GUARD**?



WHO HAS DONE THIS **TERRIBLE BARBARISM**?

THERE WERE **MANY** OF THEM-- AND THEY **SPOKE** VERY LITTLE-- BUT **THEIR** LEADER WAS A **VENGEFUL GIANT**--

I HEARD HIS **NAME** ABOVE THE **SCREAMS**-- **ERIK... ERIK KILLMONGER!**

SO YOU WERE **RIGHT**, W'KABI!

YOUR **THREAT** HAS **SPILLED** THE **BLOOD** OF MY PEOPLE...

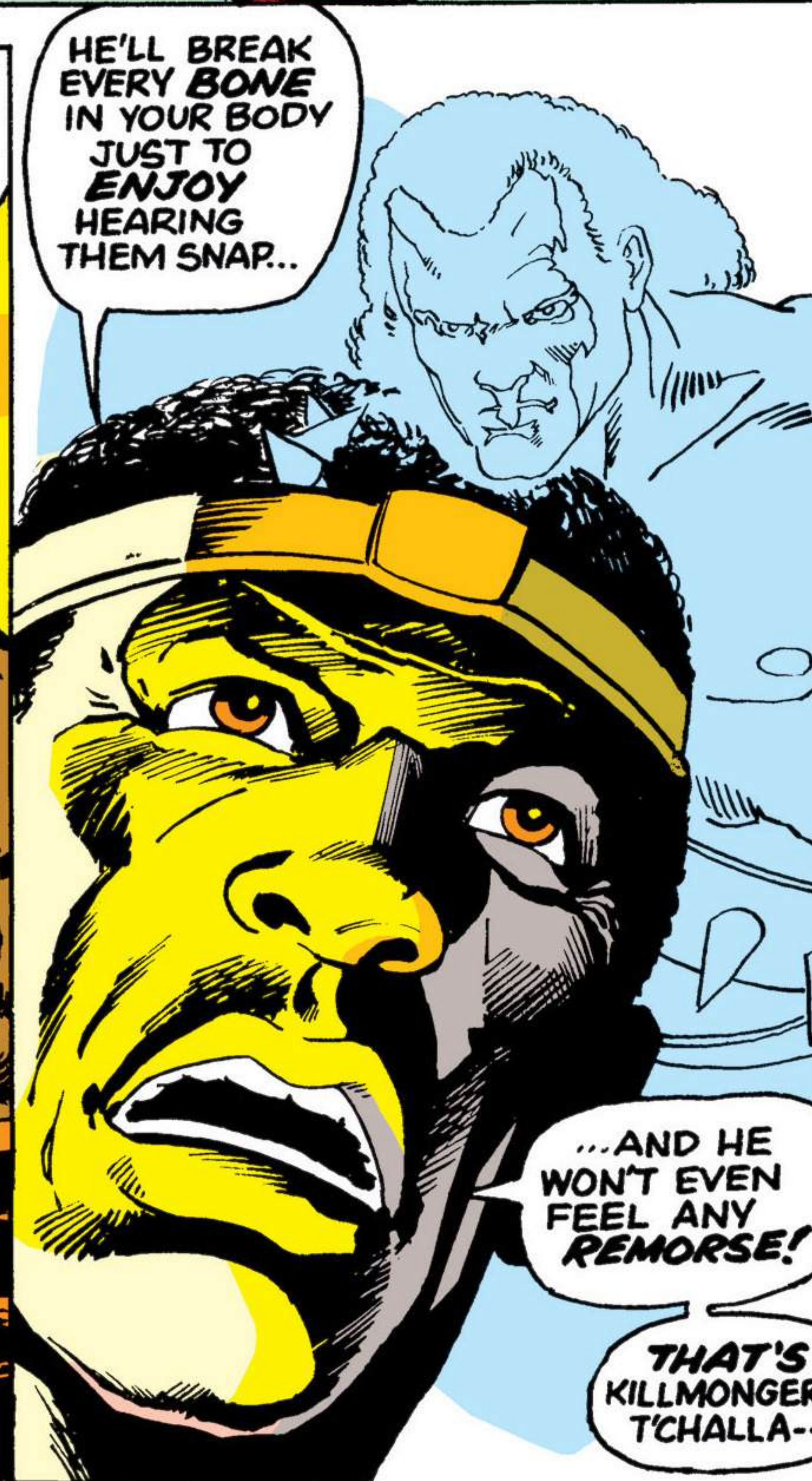
...AND I CAN TRY TO DO **NO LESS** TO HIM!



A **PITY** IT HAS TAKEN SUCH **DRASTIC EVENTS** TO STILL YOUR **OBSESSION** WITH THOSE **FOREIGN SHORES**...

BUT IF YOU DO GO FOR **KILLMONGER**, MY **CHIEFTAIN**, BE **CAREFUL**--

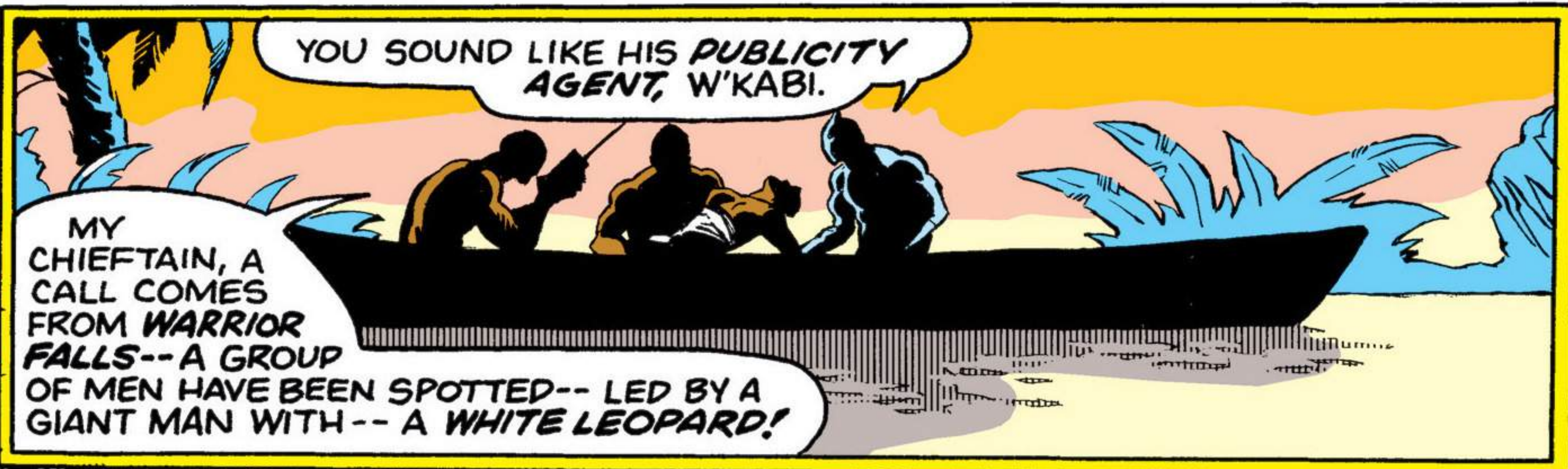
--FOR HE'LL **CUT YOU** INTO STRIPS OF **BACON** AND LEAVE YOU TO **FRY** IN THE **AFRICAN SUN!**



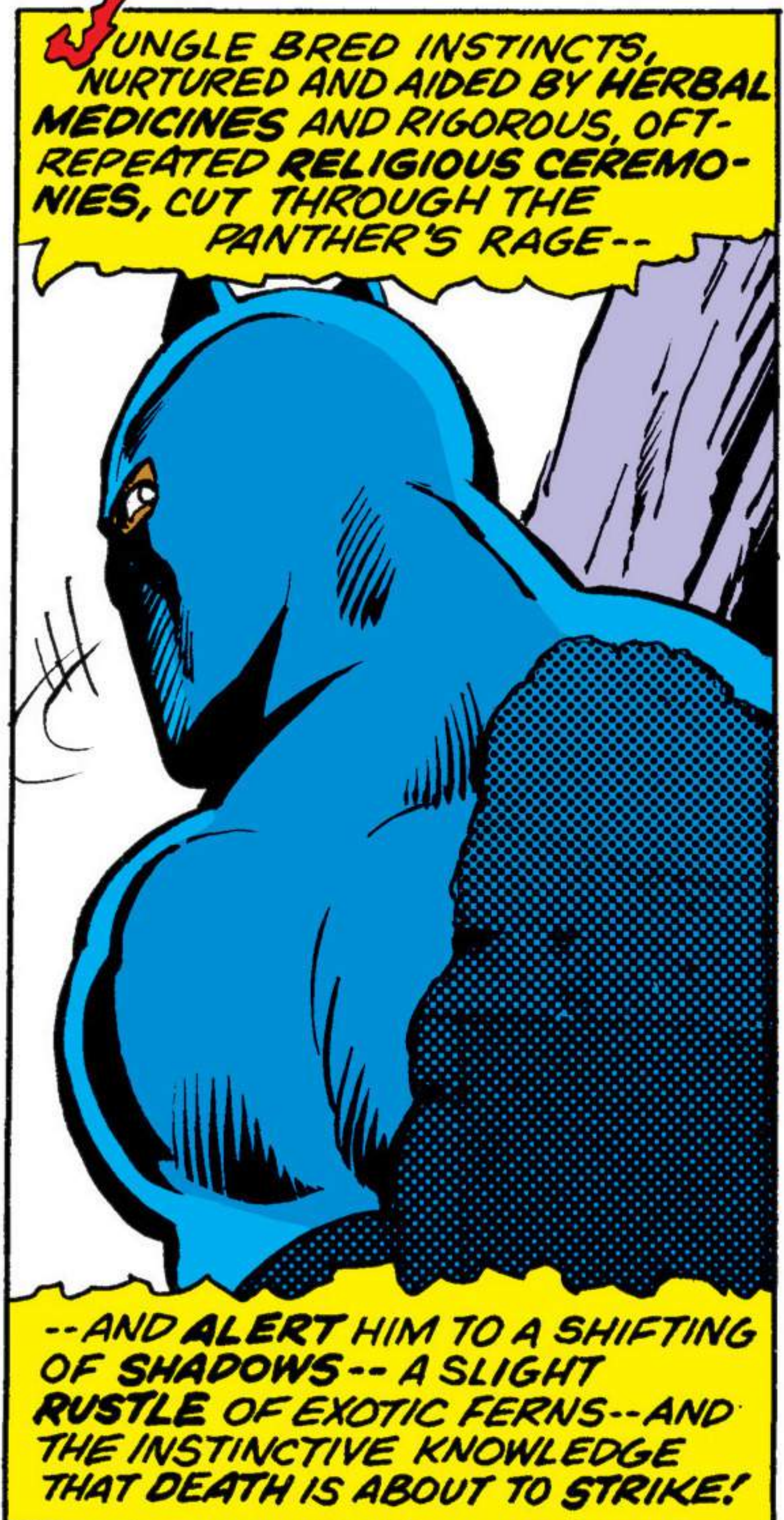
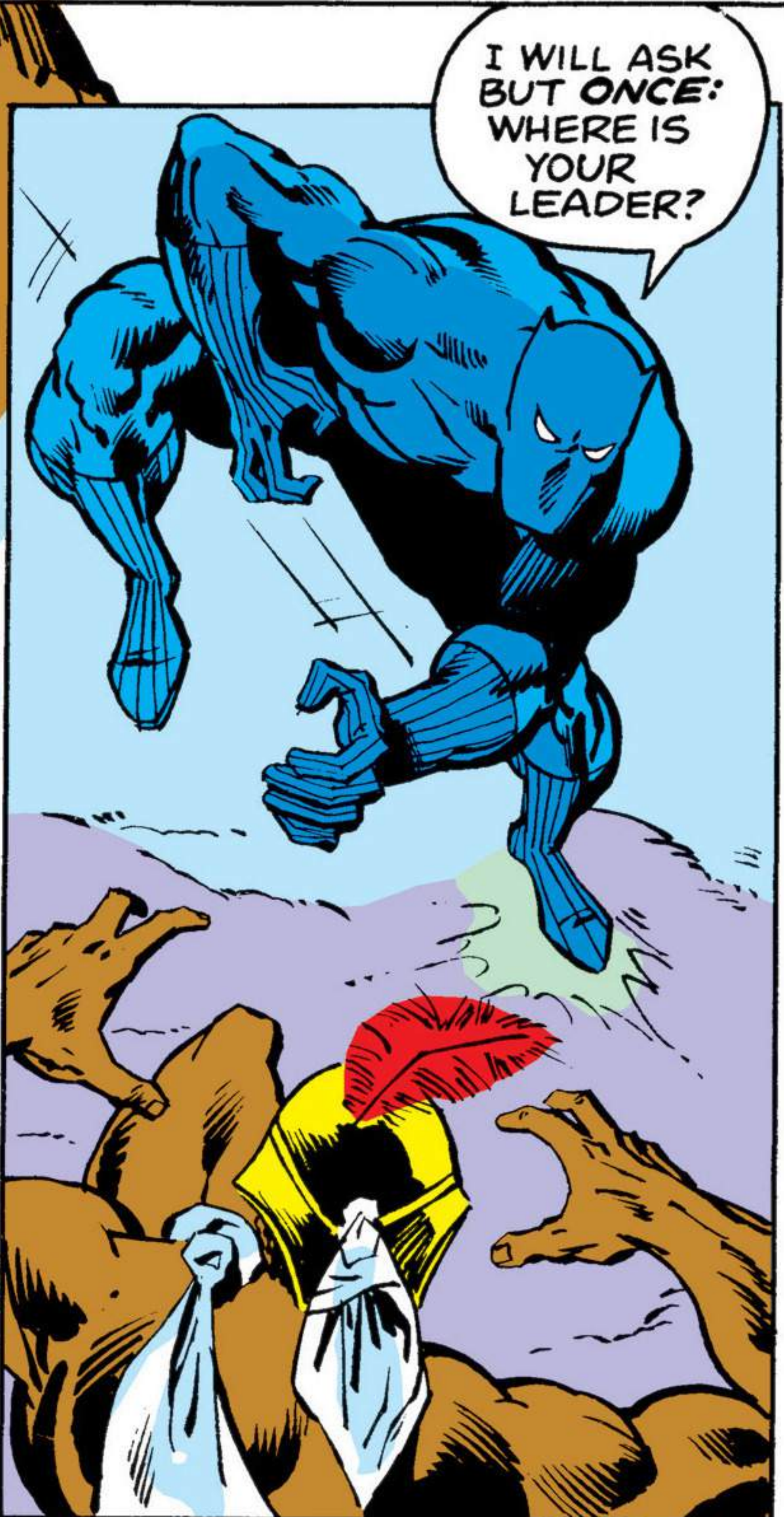
HE'LL **BREAK EVERY BONE** IN YOUR BODY JUST TO **ENJOY** HEARING THEM **SNAP**...

...AND HE WON'T EVEN FEEL ANY **REMORSE!**

THAT'S **KILLMONGER**, T'CHALLA--



AS A CHILD, WARRIOR FALLS WAS A WORK OF WONDER TO T'CHALLA'S YOUNG EYES-- AND NOW, THOUGH HE HAS SEEN MANY WONDERS SINCE, THE CASCADING FALLS STILL INSPIRE AWE; THEIR ROAR IS LIKE THE RAGE THAT CONSUMES HIM!



THE PANTHER HAD ONLY HALF BELIEVED W'KABI'S DIRE PREMONITIONS, FOR WHISPERED THREATS HINT OF MELODRAMA...

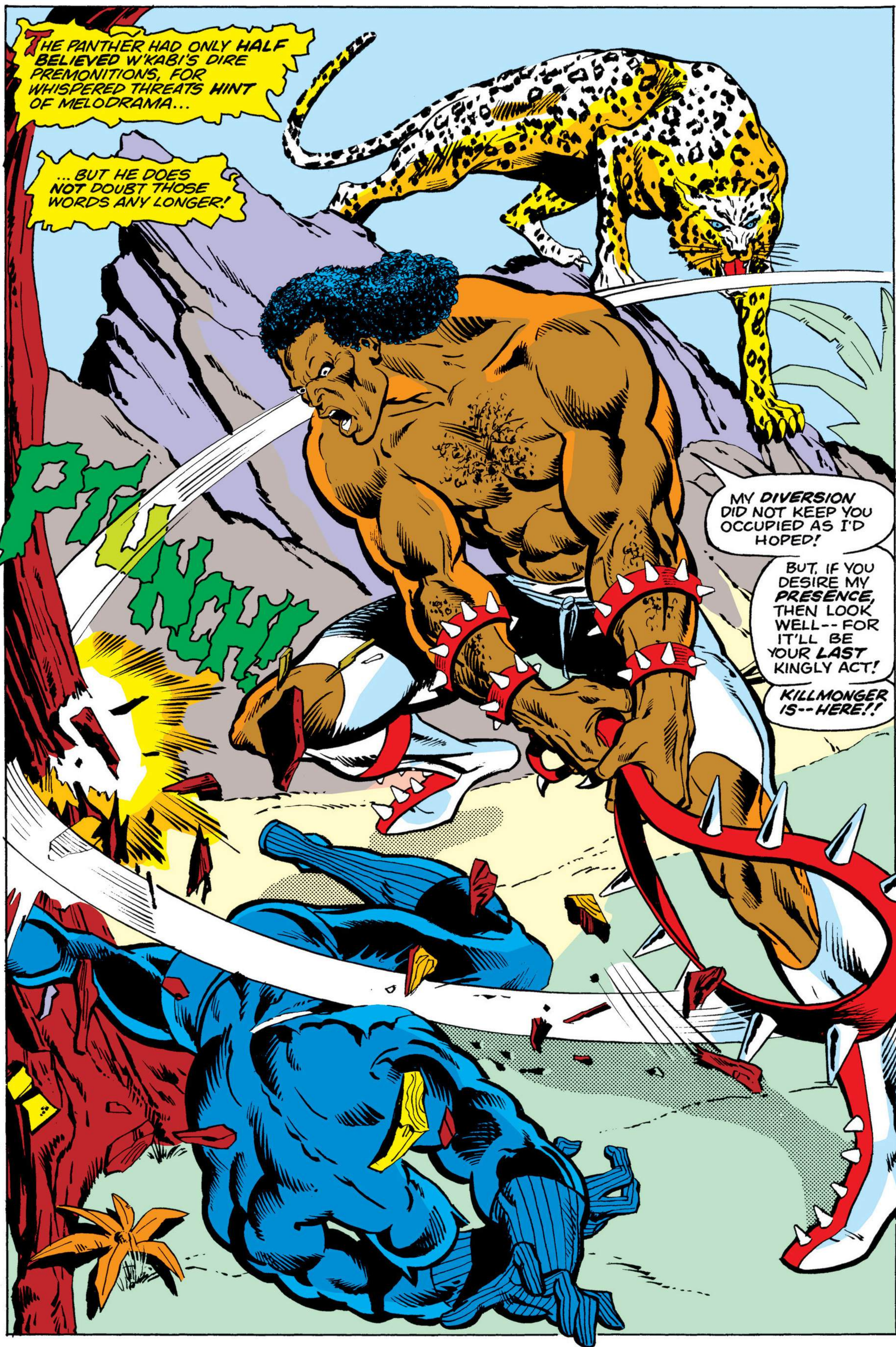
... BUT HE DOES NOT DOUBT THOSE WORDS ANY LONGER!

MY DIVERSION DID NOT KEEP YOU OCCUPIED AS I'D HOPED!

BUT, IF YOU DESIRE MY PRESENCE, THEN LOOK WELL-- FOR IT'LL BE YOUR LAST KINGLY ACT!

KILLMONGER IS-- HERE!!

POW!!!





YOU **ATTACKED** THAT VILLAGE... EXACTED THAT **CARNAGE**... JUST TO DIVERT US?



YOU SOUND OUT-
RAGED, T'CHALLA!

IT'S ALMOST AS IF YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THAT WE'VE MET BEFORE--!



IT HAS BEEN A **LONG** TIME SINCE I'VE HEARD YOUR MORAL INDIGNATION, GRANTED...



...BUT WHAT ARE YOU **LOOKING FOR?** A METHOD OF **ESCAPE?** THERE...

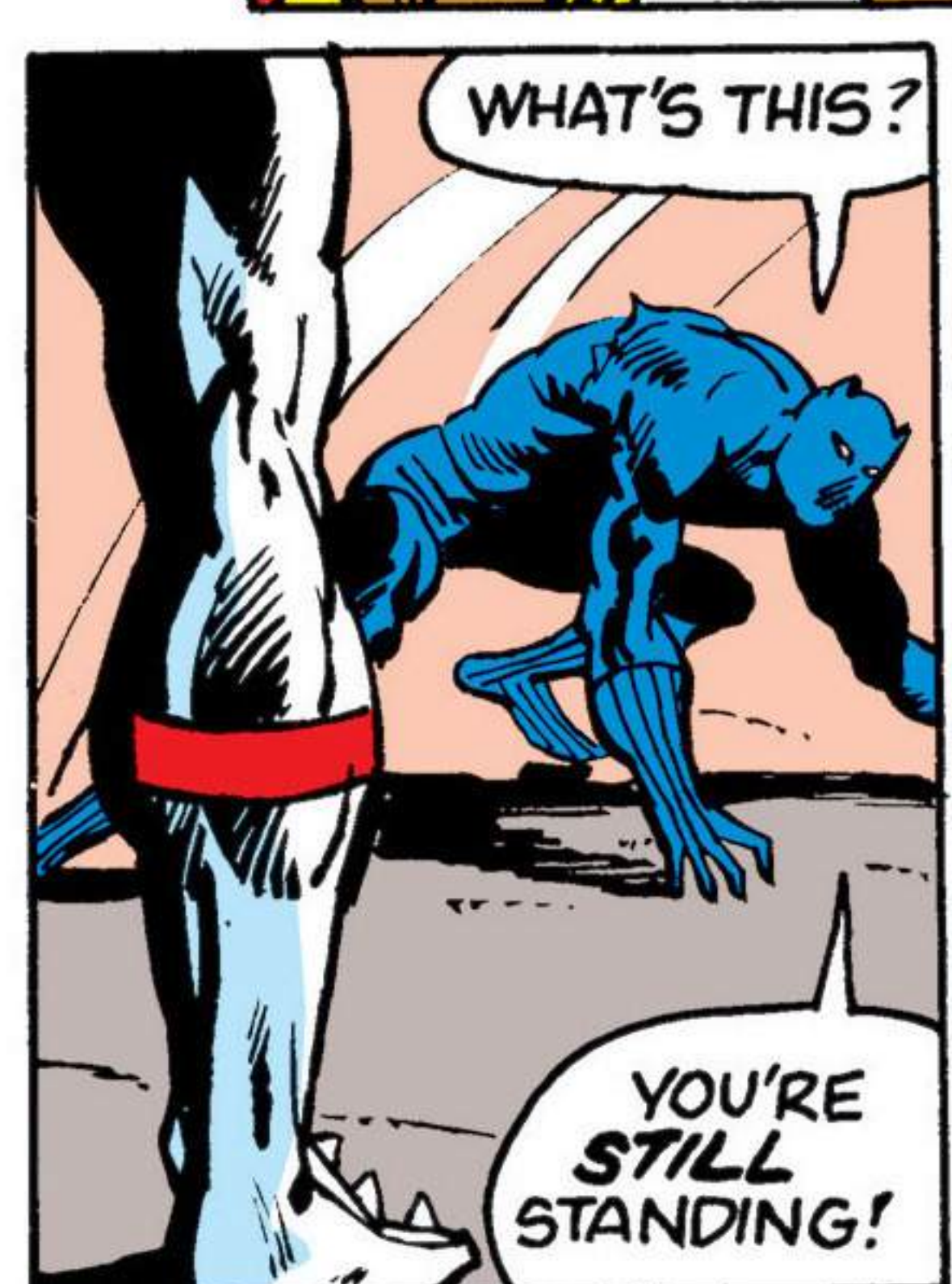


... ISN'T...



...ANY?

THAT'S **ONLY** PARTIAL REPAYMENT. PERHAPS JUST **ONE** OF US WALKS FROM HERE TODAY!



WHAT'S THIS?

YOU'RE **STILL** STANDING!



IS THAT THE **BEST** YOU CAN DO, T'CHALLA?

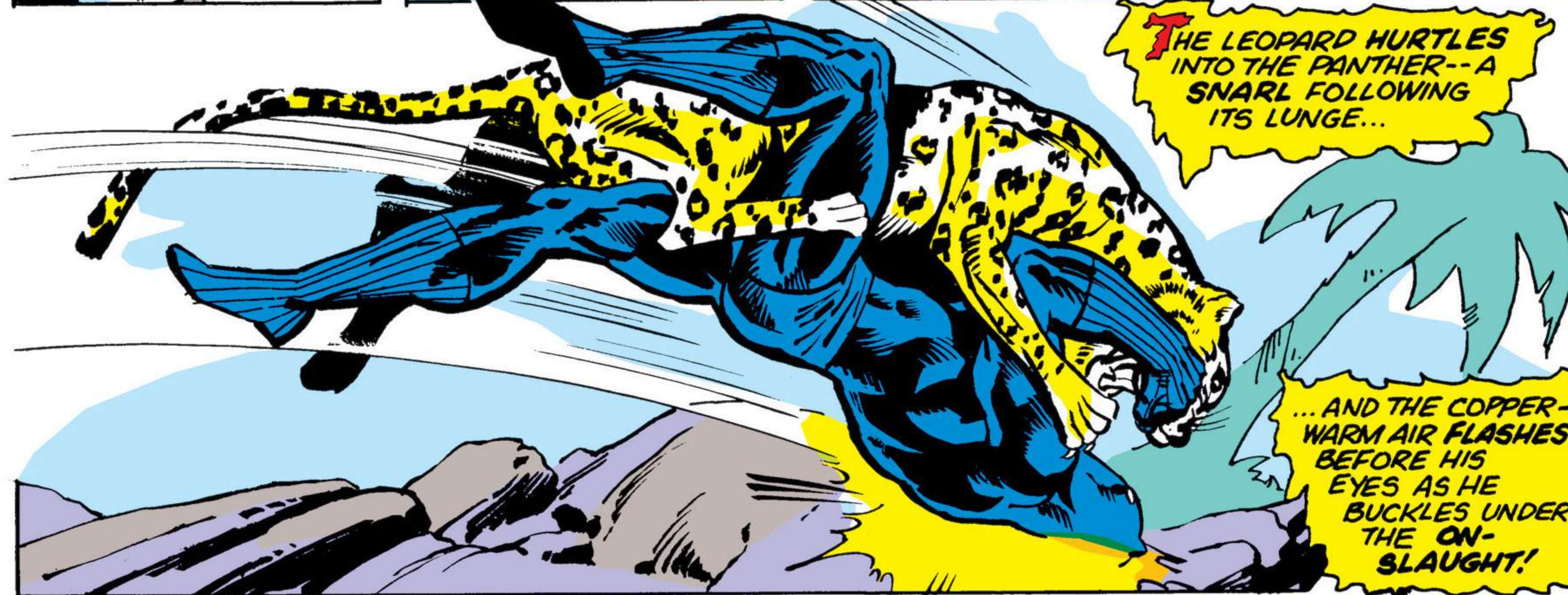


IF SO, I'M **DISAPPOINTED**.

MY CAT, **PREYY...**



... MAKES SHORT WORK OF MY DISAPPOINTMENTS!



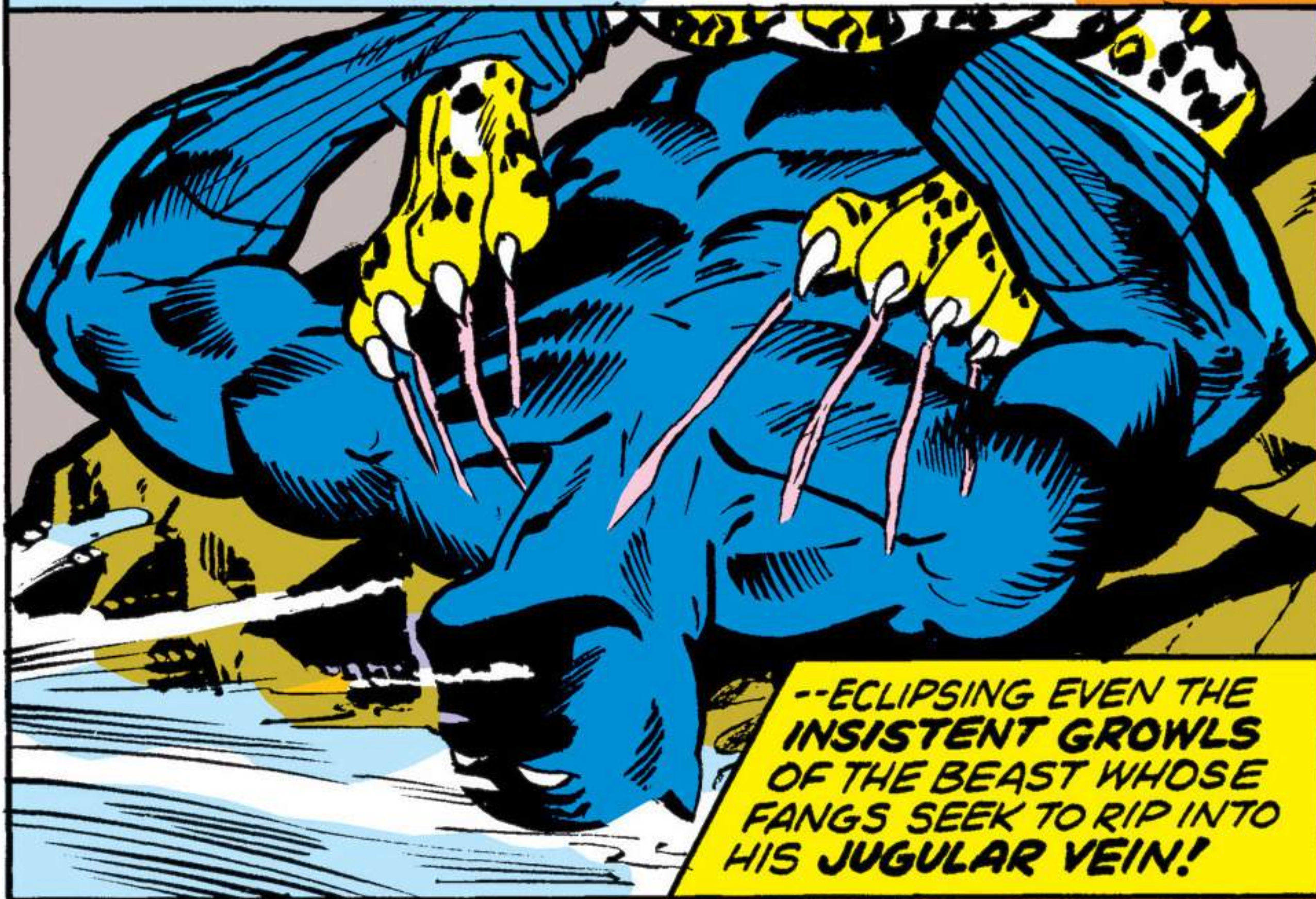
THE LEOPARD HURTTLES INTO THE PANTHER-- A SNARL FOLLOWING ITS LUNGE...

... AND THE COPPER-WARM AIR FLASHES BEFORE HIS EYES AS HE BUCKLES UNDER THE **ON-SLAUGHT!**

THIS IS THE HOUR
OF YOUR **DEFEAT**,
T'CHALLA--

--I'D **NOT**
EXPECTED IT
TO HAPPEN THIS
QUICKLY!

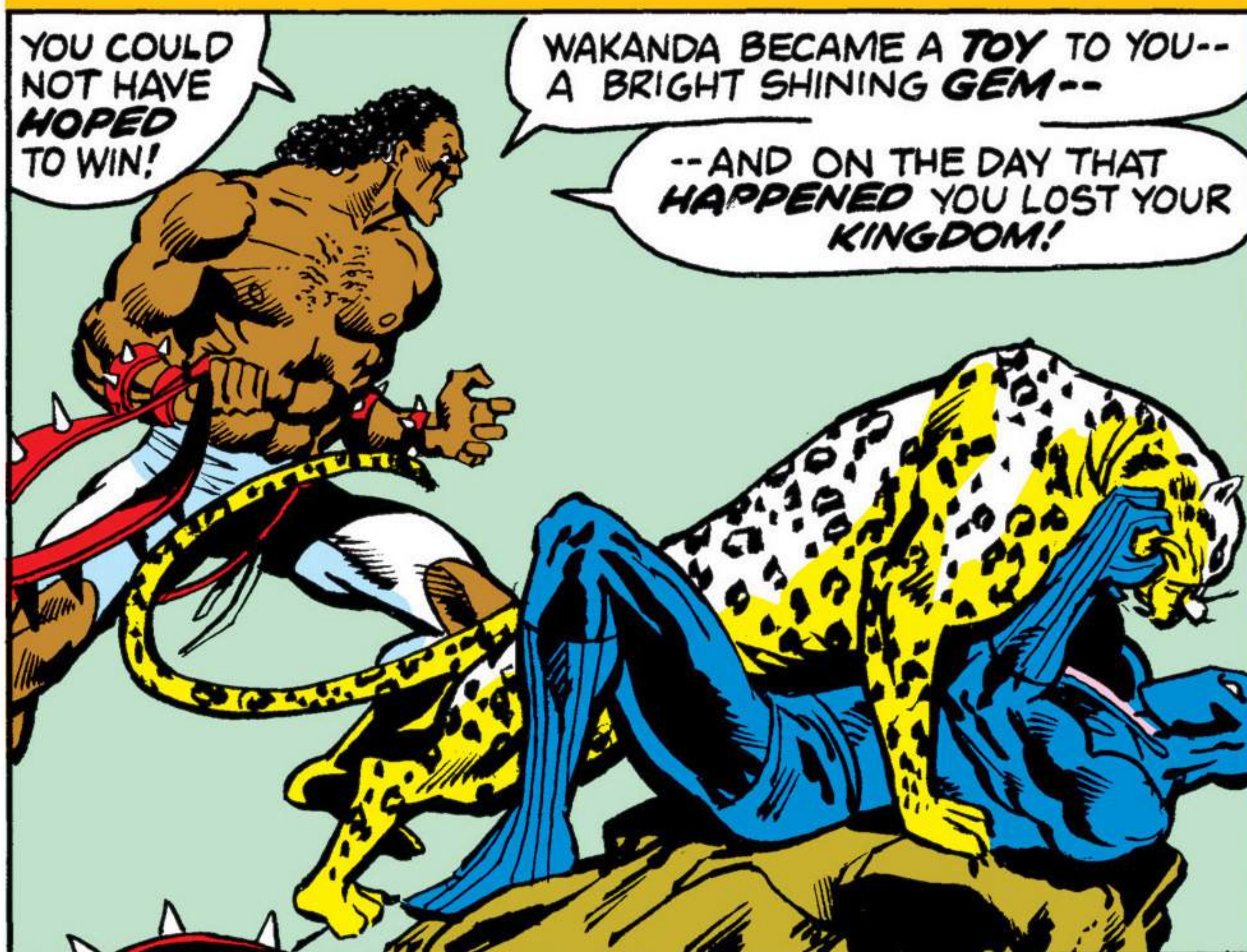
THE PANTHER
BARELY HEARS
KILLMONGER'S WORDS,
FOR THE RUSHING
WATER SPILLS
THUNDEROUSLY OVER
THE **PRECIPICE**--



--ECLIPSING EVEN THE
INSISTENT GROWLS
OF THE BEAST WHOSE
FANGS SEEK TO RIP INTO
HIS **JUGULAR VEIN**!



FOR ONE
MOMENT
THE
PANTHER
KNOWS **FEAR**--
THEN
CONQUERS
IT--HIS
FINGERS
QUESTING
THROUGH
FUR FOR A
VULNERABLE
OPENING.



YOU COULD
NOT HAVE
HOPED
TO WIN!

WAKANDA BECAME A **TOY** TO YOU--
A BRIGHT SHINING **GEM**--

--AND ON THE DAY THAT
HAPPENED YOU LOST YOUR
KINGDOM!



THE
PANTHER
IGNORES
THE
ACCUSA-
TIONS,
FINGERS
PROBING,
PRYING
APART
THE
ANIMAL'S
SLAVERING
JAWS.



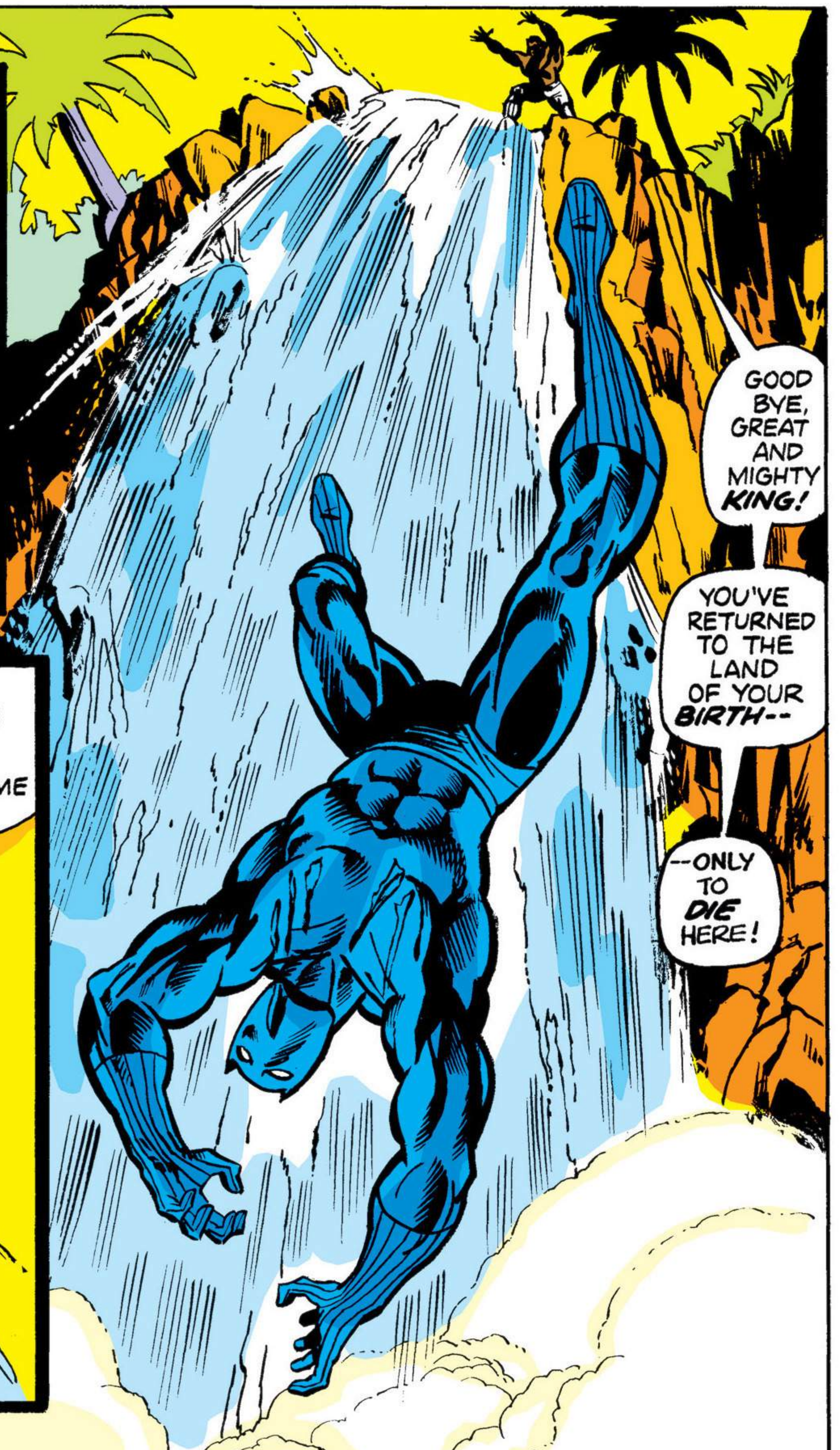
COME,
PREYY!
FINISH
THIS
FARCE
QUICK-
LY!



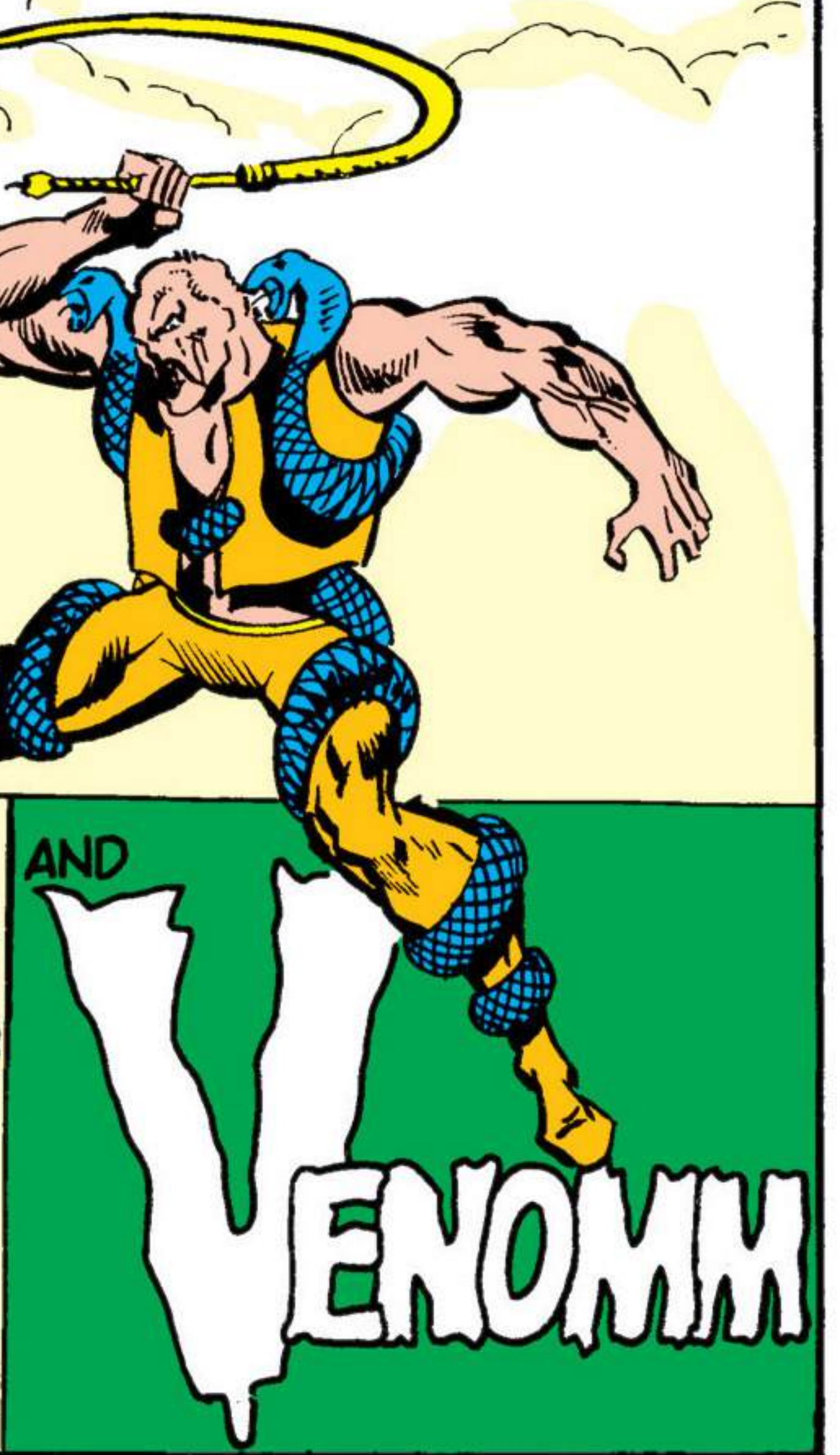
FOR A
MOMENT,
BOTH
OPONENTS
HOLD THEIR
OWN-- AN
INCREDIBLE
CONTEST OF
STRENGTH--

SNAPP!

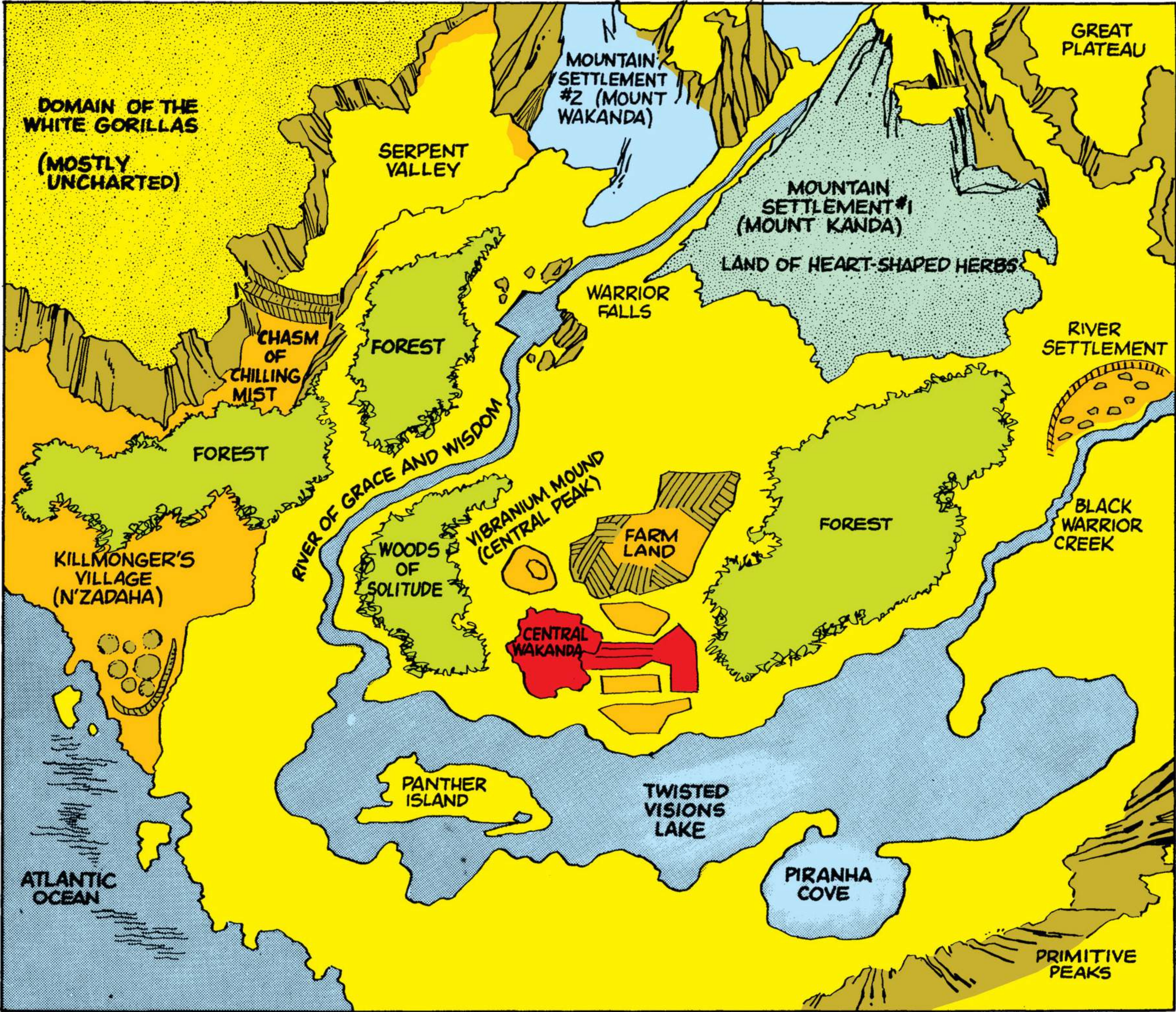
--UNTIL SLOWLY,
SURELY, HIS GLOVED
FINGERS,
SLICKENED BY
HIS OWN BLOOD
AND THE CREATURE'S
SALIVA, THE
PANTHER **FORCES**
THE GAPIING MOUTH
TO ITS **LIMIT**,
NEARLY **BREAKING**
ITS NECK!



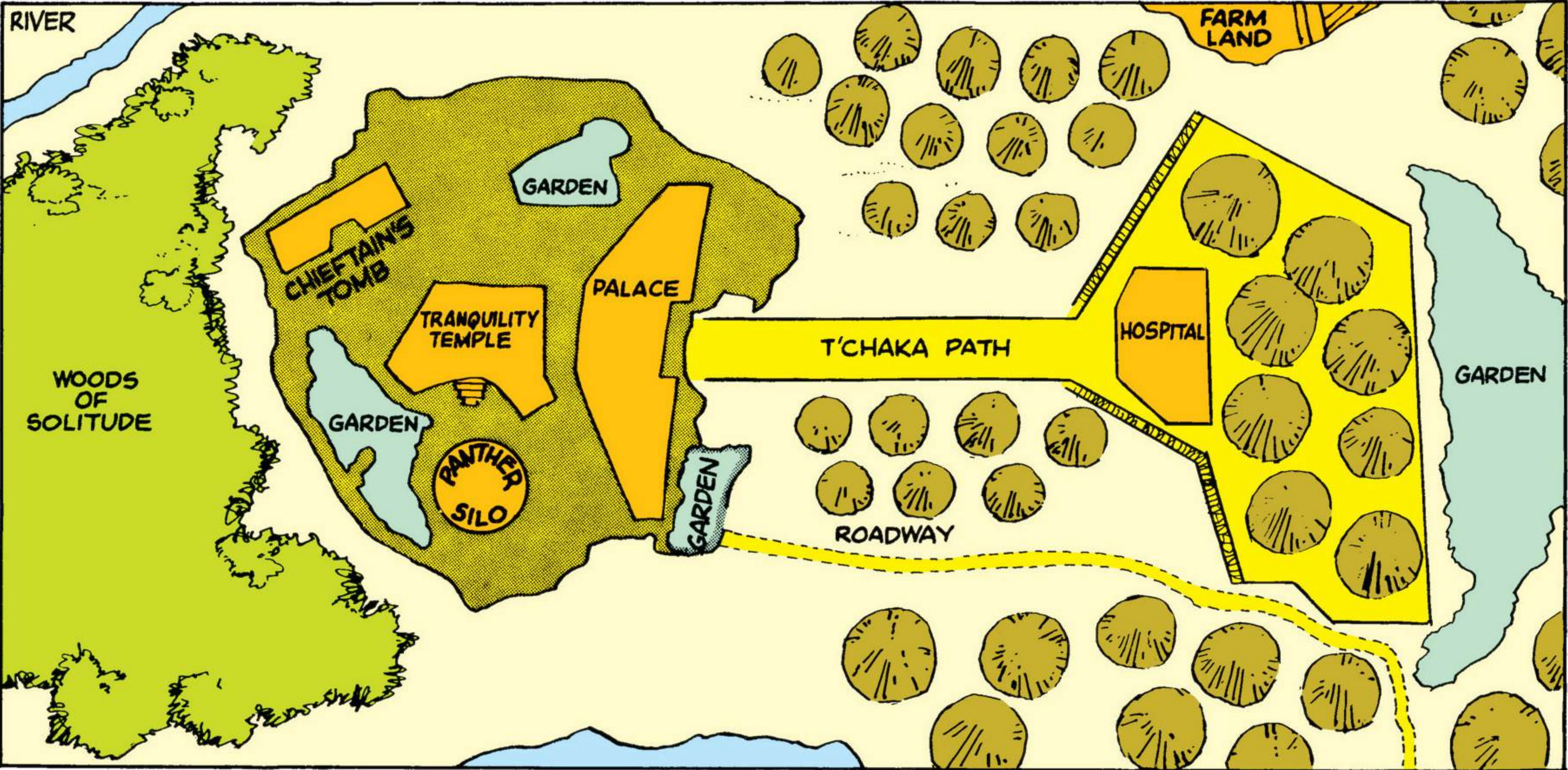
DEATH REGIMENTS
BENEATH
WAKANDA



MAP OF THE LAND OF THE WAKANDA



CENTRAL WAKANDA



JUNGLE
ACTION

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™



20¢
7 NOV
02161

JUNGLE ACTION FEATURING:

THE BLACK PANTHER™



STRIKE, MY PETS!
**STRIKE--
AND SLAY!**

THE BLACK
PANTHER
MUST
DIE!

AND--IF I
DON'T MOVE
EVEN FASTER
THAN THOSE
VIPERS--

--THAT'S
JUST WHAT'LL
HAPPEN!

BUCKLER
& JANSON

VENOMM
IS HIS NAME--
AND
MURDER
IS HIS GAME!

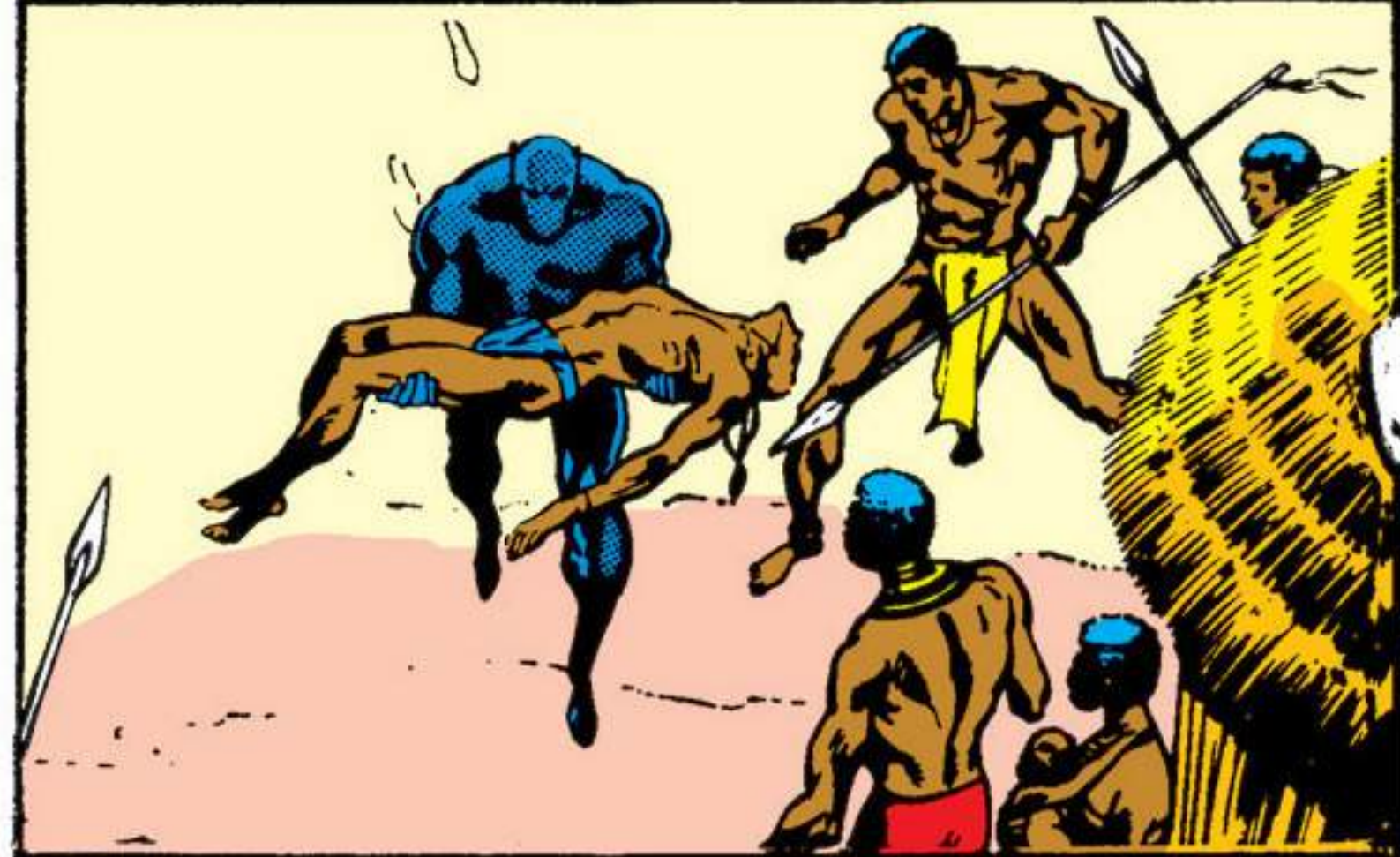




Stan Lee PRESENTS: **THE BLACK PANTHER!**™

PANTHER'S RAGE CONTINUES...

THE BLACK PANTHER IS BACK-- BACK IN WAKANDA-- BUT IT IS NOT A JOYOUS RETURN--



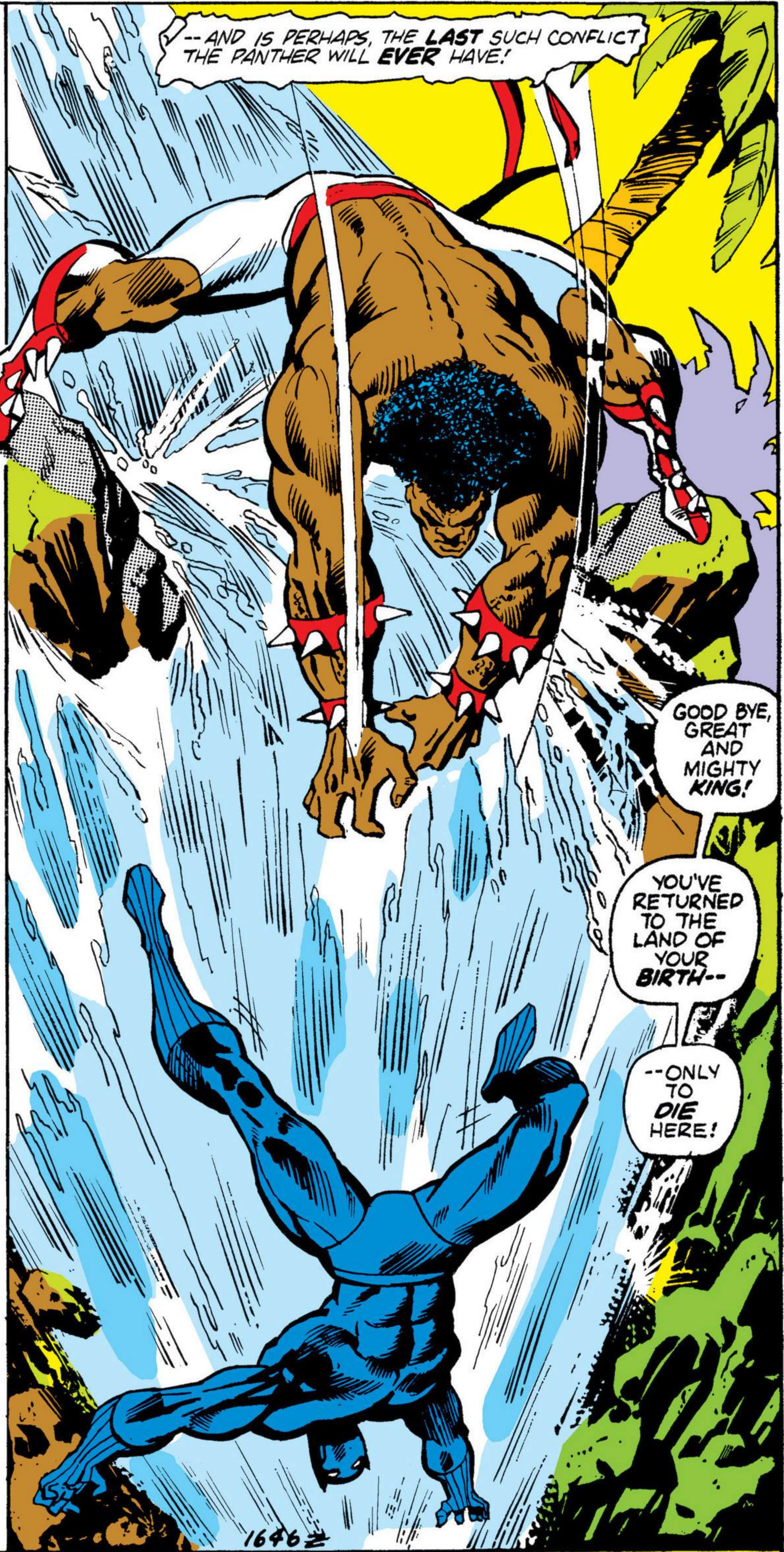
-- FOR THIS HIDDEN JUNGLE PARADISE WHERE HE IS KNOWN AS T'CHALLA, KING OF THE WAKANDAS, IS NOT THE LAND HE LEFT!

THE PANTHER'S RULE IS THREATENED BY ERIK KILLMONGER!



KILLMONGER-- A VIOLENT LEADER WHO HAS ARISEN FROM ONE OF THE NUMEROUS MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENTS SURROUNDING CENTRAL WAKANDA!

A TOP WARRIOR FALLS, THE PANTHER AND KILLMONGER CLASH FOR THE FIRST TIME-- A CONFLICT THAT ENDS ABRUPTLY--



-- AND IS PERHAPS, THE LAST SUCH CONFLICT THE PANTHER WILL EVER HAVE!

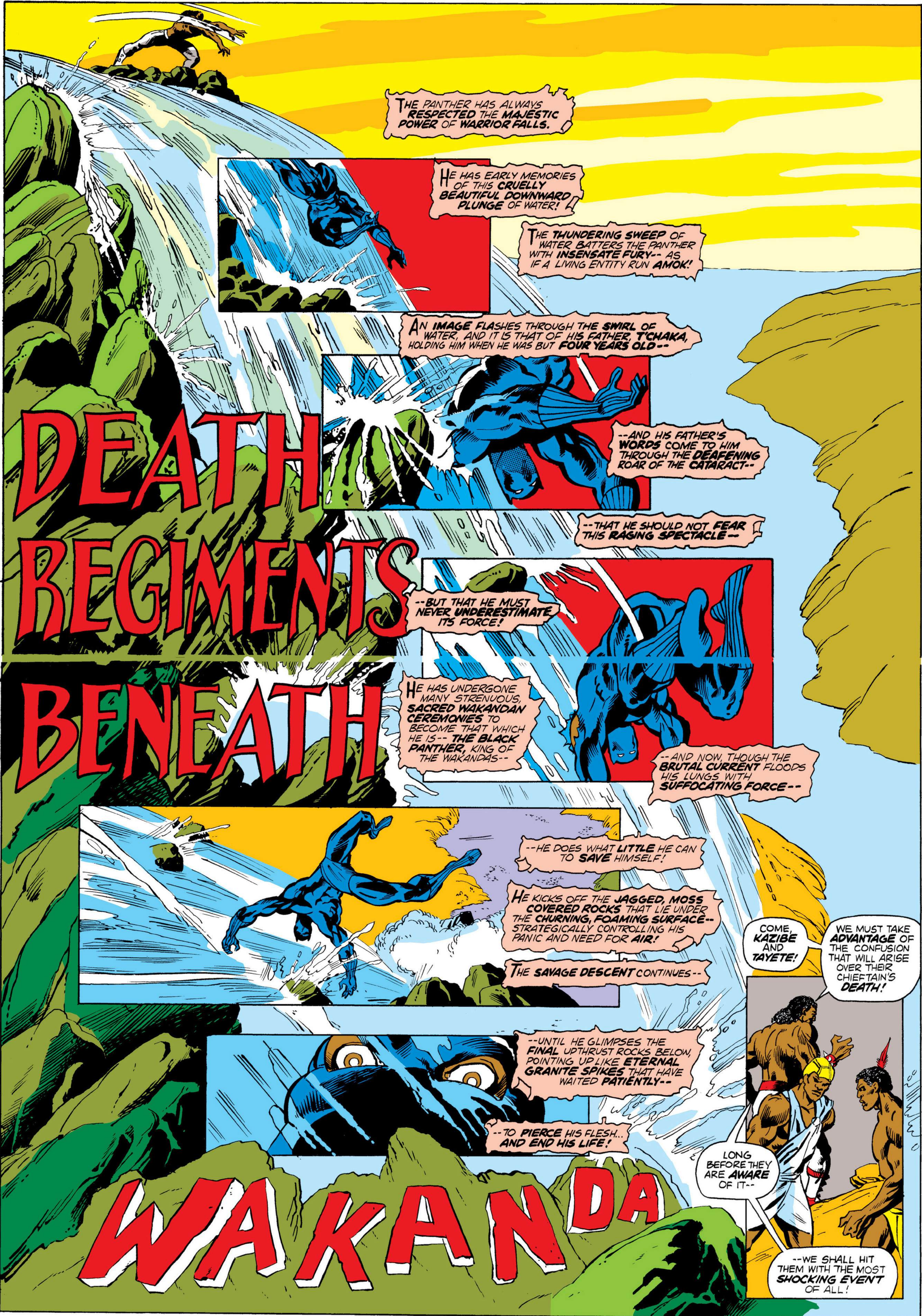
GOOD BYE, GREAT AND MIGHTY KING!

YOU'VE RETURNED TO THE LAND OF YOUR BIRTH--

-- ONLY TO DIE HERE!

1646 Z

DON MCGREGOR WRITER **RICH BUCKLER** ARTIST **KLAUS JANSON** INKER **T ORZECOWSKI,** LETTERER **GLYNIS WEIN** COLORIST **ROY THOMAS** EDITOR



THE PANTHER HAS ALWAYS
RESPECTED THE MAJESTIC
POWER OF WARRIOR FALLS.



HE HAS EARLY MEMORIES
OF THIS CRUELLY
BEAUTIFUL DOWNWARD
PLUNGE OF WATER!

THE THUNDERING SWEEP OF
WATER BATTERS THE PANTHER
WITH INSENSATE FURY-- AS
IF A LIVING ENTITY RUN AMOK!

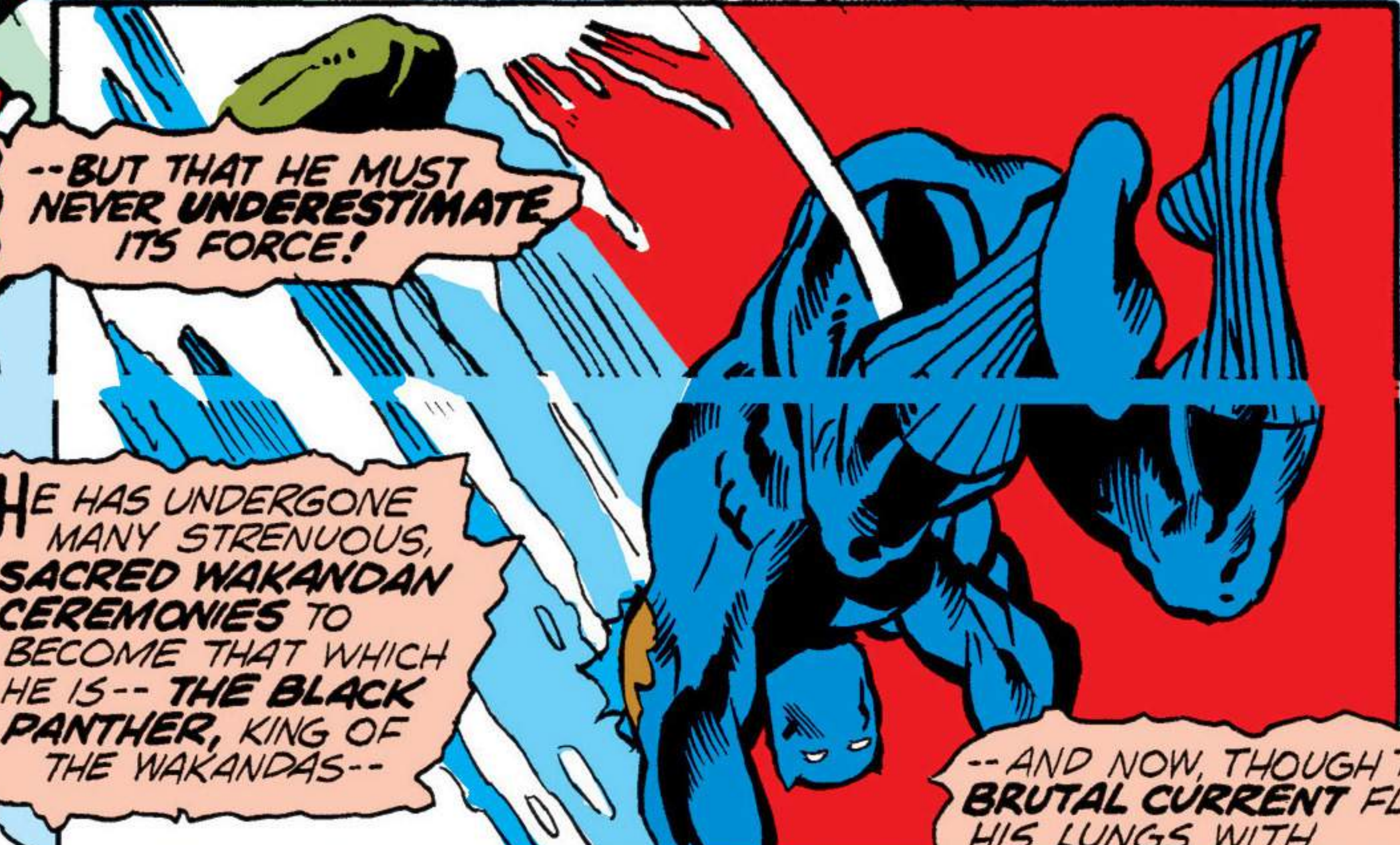
AN IMAGE FLASHES THROUGH THE SWIRL OF
WATER, AND IT IS THAT OF HIS FATHER, T'CHAKA,
HOLDING HIM WHEN HE WAS BUT FOUR YEARS OLD--



--AND HIS FATHER'S
WORDS COME TO HIM
THROUGH THE DEAFENING
ROAR OF THE CATARACT--

--THAT HE SHOULD NOT FEAR
THIS RAGING SPECTACLE--

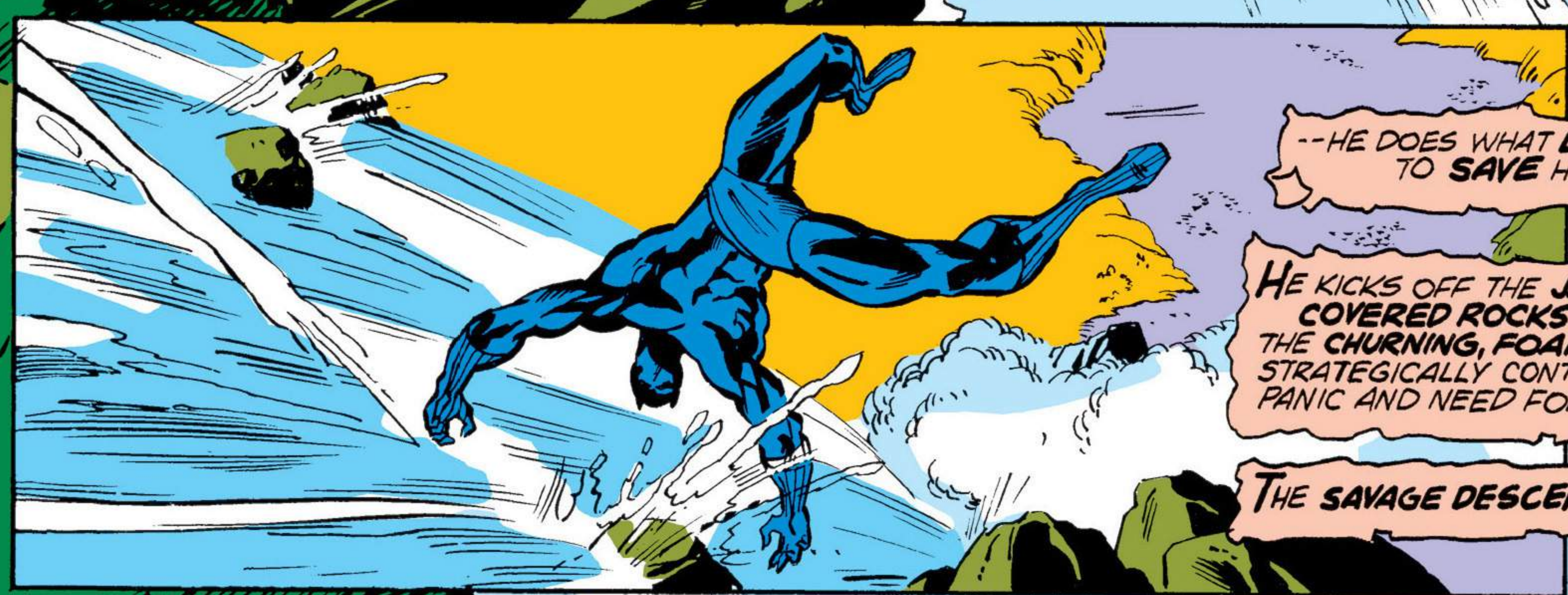
DEATH REGIMENTS BENEATH



--BUT THAT HE MUST
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE
ITS FORCE!

HE HAS UNDERGONE
MANY STRENUOUS,
SACRED WAKANDAN
CEREMONIES TO
BECOME THAT WHICH
HE IS-- THE BLACK
PANTHER, KING OF
THE WAKANDAS--

--AND NOW, THOUGH THE
BRUTAL CURRENT FLOODS
HIS LUNGS WITH
SUFFOCATING FORCE--



--HE DOES WHAT LITTLE HE CAN
TO SAVE HIMSELF!

HE KICKS OFF THE JAGGED, MOSS
COVERED ROCKS THAT LIE UNDER
THE CHURNING, FOAMING SURFACE--
STRATEGICALLY CONTROLLING HIS
PANIC AND NEED FOR AIR!

THE SAVAGE DESCENT CONTINUES--



--UNTIL HE GLIMPSES THE
FINAL UPTHRUST ROCKS BELOW,
POINTING UP LIKE ETERNAL
GRANITE SPIKES THAT HAVE
WAITED PATIENTLY--

--TO PIERCE HIS FLESH...
AND END HIS LIFE!

WAKANDA



COME,
KAZIBE
AND
TAYETE!

WE MUST TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF
THE CONFUSION
THAT WILL ARISE
OVER THEIR
CHIEFTAIN'S
DEATH!

LONG
BEFORE THEY
ARE AWARE
OF IT--

--WE SHALL HIT
THEM WITH THE MOST
SHOCKING EVENT
OF ALL!

MONICA
LYNNE
LOOKS FOR
THE FIRST
TIME UPON
THE RIVER
OF GRACE
AND WISDOM--

--AND THE LYRICAL
SINGER SHE ONCE
WAS SEES UNDER THE
IDYLIC, SMOOTHLY
FLOWING CURRENT--

--AND SHE UNDERSTANDS
WHY THE RIVER WAS SO NAMED.

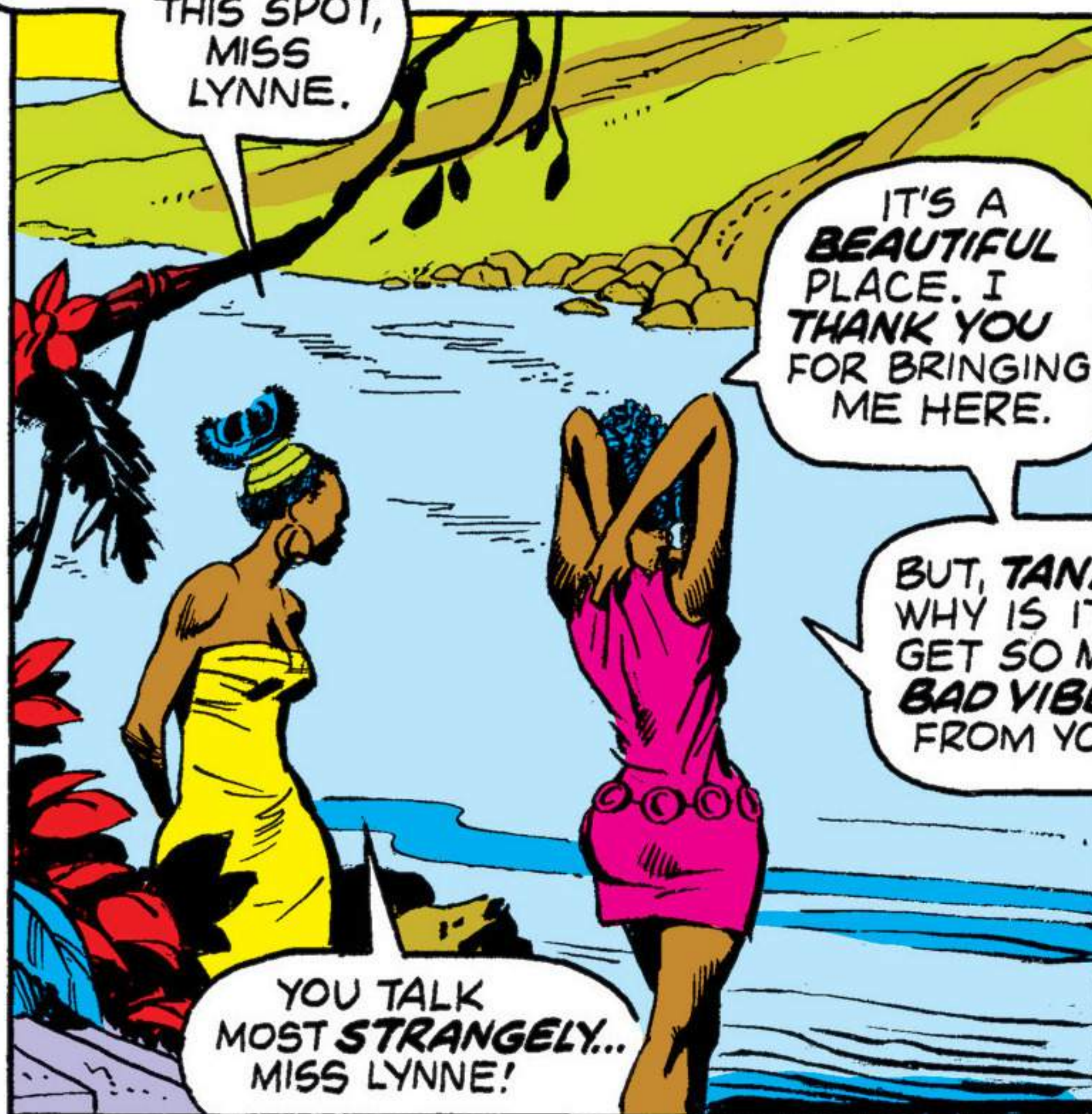
SHE LISTENS TO THE
MOVEMENT OF THE
WATER THE WAY SHE WANTED
OTHERS TO LISTEN TO HER
SONGS--

--TO HEAR THE WORDS--TO REALLY LISTEN.

AND THEN THERE WAS A MAN WHO DID
LISTEN... AND THAT IS WHY SHE IS HERE!



YOU
WILL FIND
THE WATER MOST
WARM AND
PLEASING AT
THIS SPOT,
MISS
LYNNE.



IT'S A
BEAUTIFUL
PLACE. I
THANK YOU
FOR BRINGING
ME HERE.

BUT, TANZIKA,
WHY IS IT I
GET SO MANY
BAD VIBES
FROM YOU?

YOU TALK
MOST STRANGELY...
MISS LYNNE!



CALL
ME
MONICA.

I'LL BE AWAITING
YOU UP IN THE
AMBER PAGODA.

IF YOU
SHOULD
NEED
ANYTHING,
JUST
CALL...

... MISS
LYNNE.



THE WATER IS WARM AND EASES HER SENSE OF
ALIENATION...

... BUT ONLY FOR
A MOMENT!

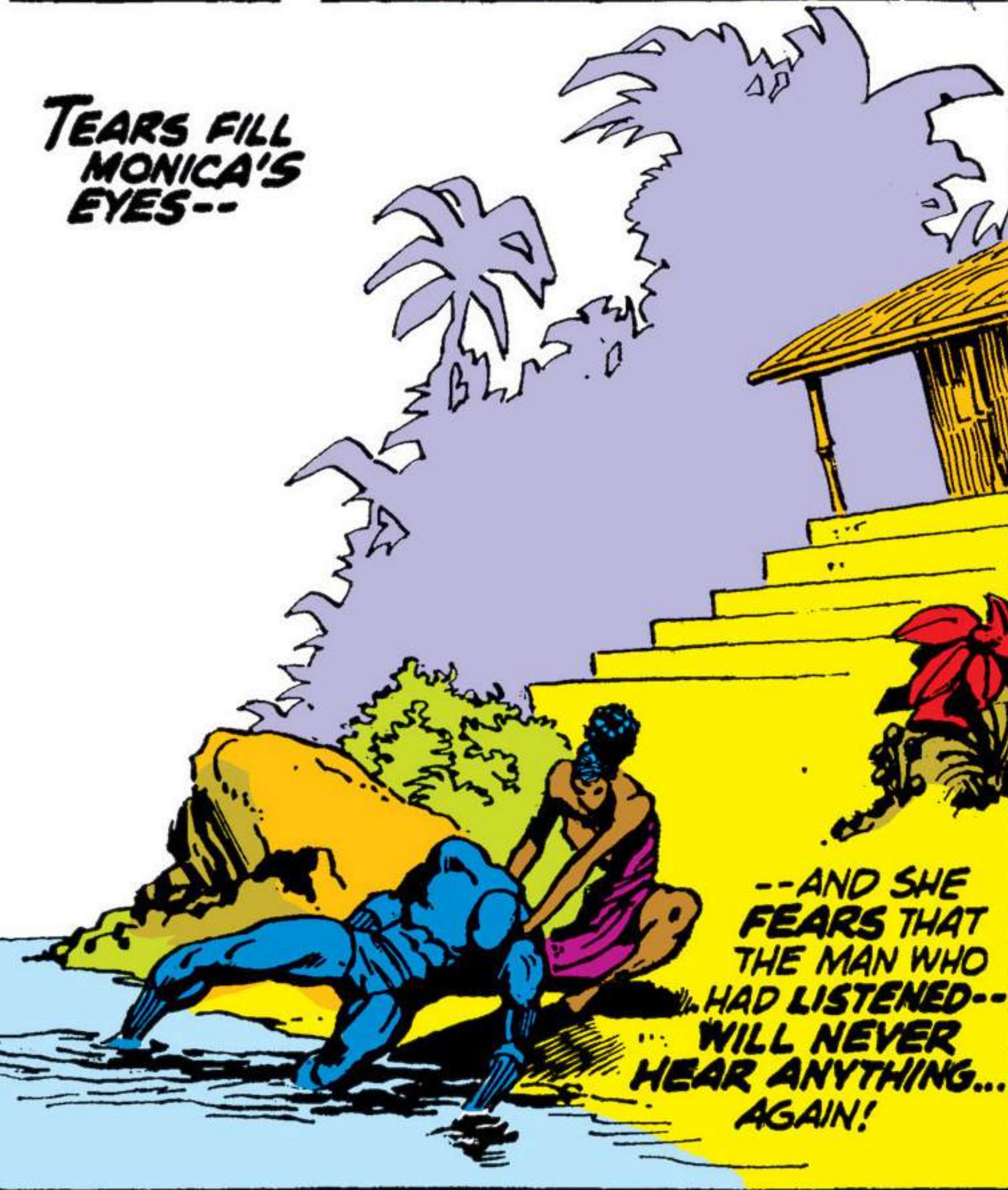


OH
MY
LORD!
T'CHALLA!

THE EXCLAMATION FADES
UNANSWERED.



TEARS FILL
MONICA'S
EYES--



--AND SHE
FEARS THAT
THE MAN WHO
HAD LISTENED--
WILL NEVER
HEAR ANYTHING...
AGAIN!



DUSK FALLS OVER THE ISOLATED VILLAGE OF N'JADAKA, AND A SIBILANT, MUSICAL SOUND WAVERS IN THE HUMID AIR--

--REACHING INTO THE SHELTERED HUTS WHERE THE SETTLEMENT'S INHABITANTS REACT SUSPICIOUSLY.



SOME GLANCE FEARFULLY TOWARD THE COLORLESS MAN WITH THE HIDEOUS FACE--

--AND SHUDDER!

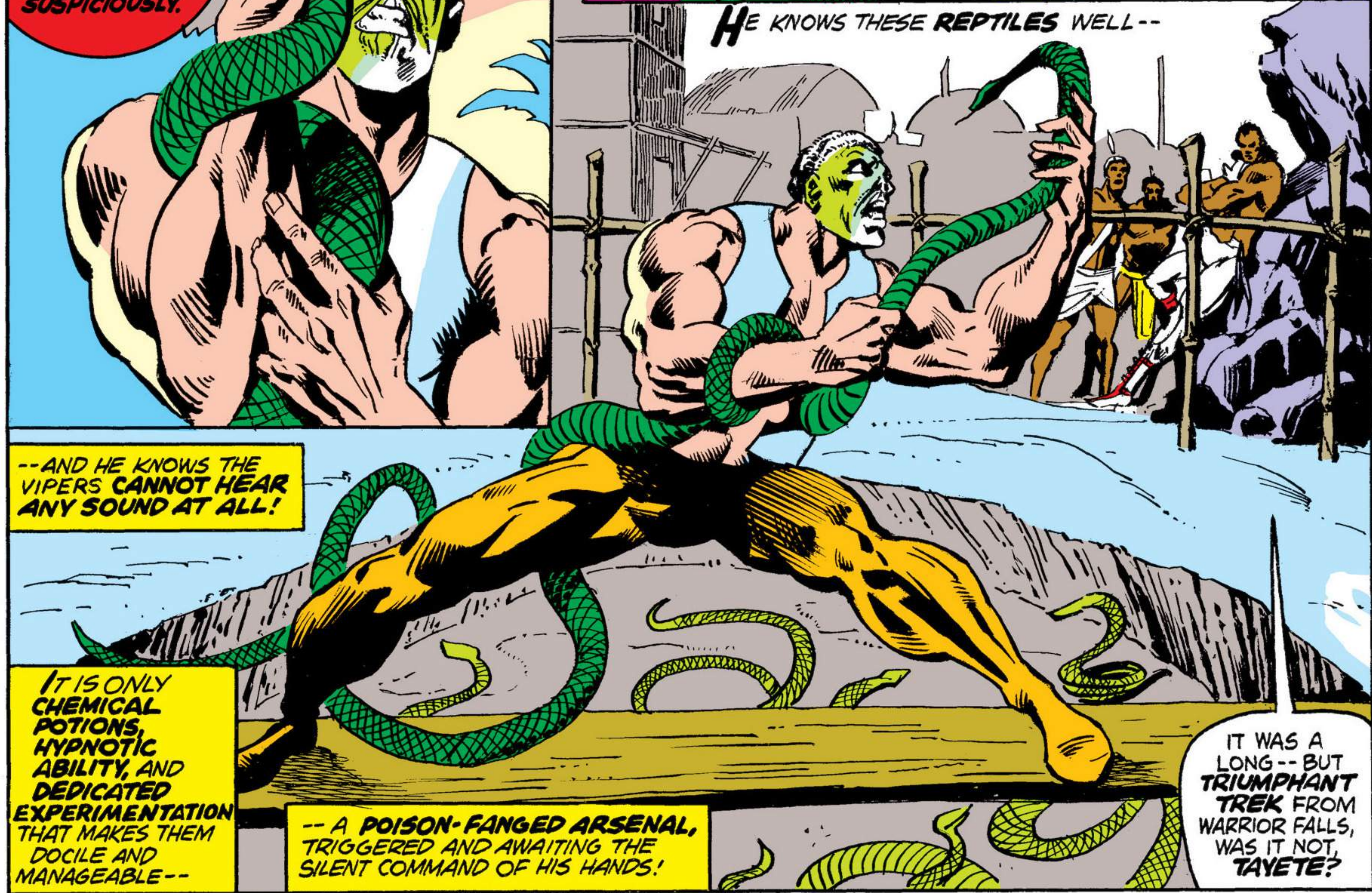
BUT THE MAN WHO INTONES THAT WHISPERING CARESS MOVES SLOWLY AND HYPNOTICALLY, A HALF-ENTRANCED MYSTIC--

--WHO PLAYS TO HIS AUDIENCE!

--AND HE KNOWS THE VIPERS CANNOT HEAR ANY SOUND AT ALL!

IT IS ONLY CHEMICAL POTIONS, HYPNOTIC ABILITY, AND DEDICATED EXPERIMENTATION THAT MAKES THEM DOCILE AND MANAGEABLE--

-- A POISON-FANGED ARSENAL, TRIGGERED AND AWAITING THE SILENT COMMAND OF HIS HANDS!



IT WAS A LONG-- BUT TRIUMPHANT TREK FROM WARRIOR FALLS, WAS IT NOT, TAYETE?

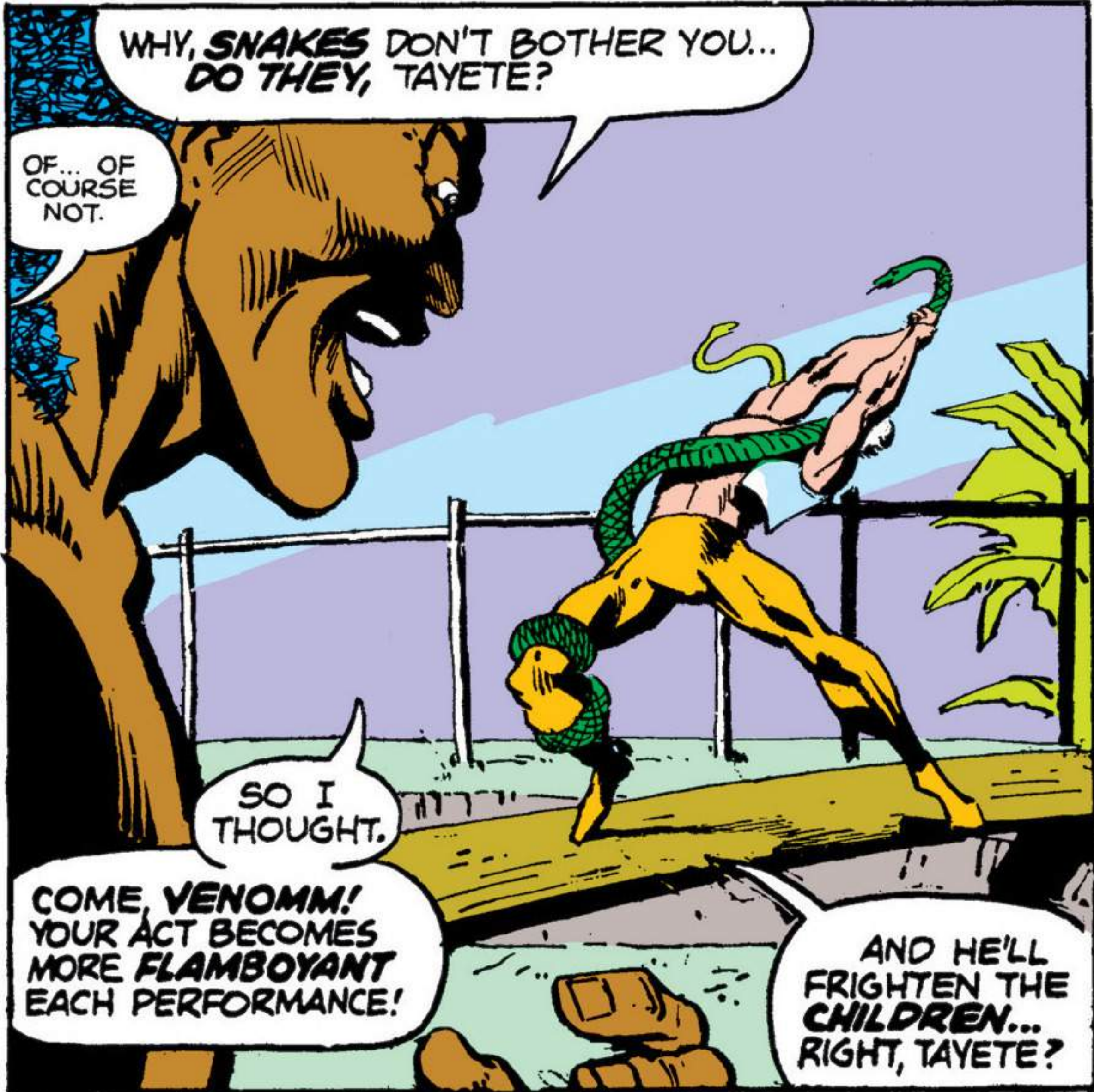


COME!

REST FOR A MOMENT.

YOU ARE WATCHING A MASTER AT WORK. IT'S SELDOM A SIGHT ONE GETS TO SEE HERE IN N'JADAKA.

I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SEE IN A GUY THAT WRAPS THEM THINGS ABOUT HIM FOR RELAXATION!



WHY, SNAKES DON'T BOTHER YOU... DO THEY, TAYETE?

OF... OF COURSE NOT.

SO I THOUGHT.

COME, VENOMM! YOUR ACT BECOMES MORE FLAMBOYANT EACH PERFORMANCE!

AND HE'LL FRIGHTEN THE CHILDREN... RIGHT, TAYETE?

N'JADAKA--

I DISCARDED THAT NAME--IT'S NOW **KILLMONGER**. YOU SHOULD RECALL THAT, **HORATIO**!

YOU'RE RIGHT! BECAUSE I **CHOSE THIS NAME**--

--VENOMM!

IT'S A **BITTER TASTE**--

--AN' IT KEEPS **LINGERIN'** IN MY MIND.

I **PROMISED** YOU, FRIEND, A PLACE WHERE YOU COULD CARRY ON YOUR **REPTILIAN PRACTICES**--

--BUT ALSO A PLACE WHERE YOU WOULD BE **ACCEPTED**.

THAT PLACE IS **HERE!** THE TIME IS **NOW!**

I'VE HEARD THE **MELODY** BEFORE--

--NEVER CARED FOR THE **REFRAIN!**

THOSE AREN'T **IMPASSIONED PROMISES** FOR THE FOLLOWERS!

THE **ATTACK** UPON THE RIVER SITE AT **BLACK WARRIOR CREEK** DID NOT OVERTURN OUR **MAJOR OBSTACLE**, THE **PANTHER**--

WE ARE ABOUT TO **HIT** THE WAKANDANS RIGHT WHERE THEY **LIVE!**

--AND AS A RESULT THE WAKANDAN'S **DARLING IDOL** IS NO LONGER ANY **OBSTACLE** AT ALL!

BUT, ENOUGH **ARROGANCE**. YOU SHOULD BE ON YOUR WAY TO THE **MINES**, VENOMM!

WHAT I **DON'T UNDERSTAND**--

--IS WHY YOU PUT THAT **ANEMIC FREAK** IN CHARGE OF THE **DEATH REGIMENTS** INSTEAD OF...

KILL!

YOU, **TAYETE?**

THAT'S NOT A QUESTION THAT **NEEDS ANSWERING**.

AND YOU SHOULD **BEWARE**, TAYETE, LEST VENOMM EVER OVERHEAR YOUR **SENTIMENTS**.

HE DOES NOT WEAR THOSE **SERPENTS** AS **DECORATIONS!**

IT IS A LONG, HOT WEEK IN CENTRAL WAKANDA-- AND THERE IS A **TENSE EXPECTANCY** ABOUT THE **CEREMONIAL CHAMBERS**.

TORCHES FLARE NIGHTLY FROM THE ORNATELY CARVED **TRANQUILITY TEMPLE**... FLICKERING FLAMES THAT PAY **TRIBUTE** TO THE SLAIN WAKANDANS FROM **BLACK WARRIOR CREEK**!

AND THE **PANTHER MENDS** REMARKABLY FAST DURING THOSE DAYS.

AT WEEK'S END, **HUGE TORTOISE SHELLS** ARE SCRAPED CLEAN AND FILLED WITH EXOTIC WAKANDAN **DELICACIES**, SMOKED OVER **RITUALISTIC FIRES OF LAMENT**!

T'CHALLA LOOKS AT THE COURT ASSEMBLAGE:

TANZIKA, NOTING HER COOL **INDIFFERENCE** TOWARD...

...MONICA, WHO SEEMS AWARE THAT THE **TRIBUNAL PRESENCE** REGARDS HER AS AN **INFERIOR OUTWORLDER**.

TAKU, REMAINING **STOIC AND NEUTRAL**--

--BUT **W'KABI**, HIS SECOND IN COMMAND, WAITS IMPATIENTLY--

--AND **ZATAMA'S** EYES SEETHE WITH **RIGHTEOUS REBELLION**.

THEY ARE ALL WAITING FOR HIM TO SPEAK-- AS IF THEY THINK HE HAS ALL THE **ANSWERS**

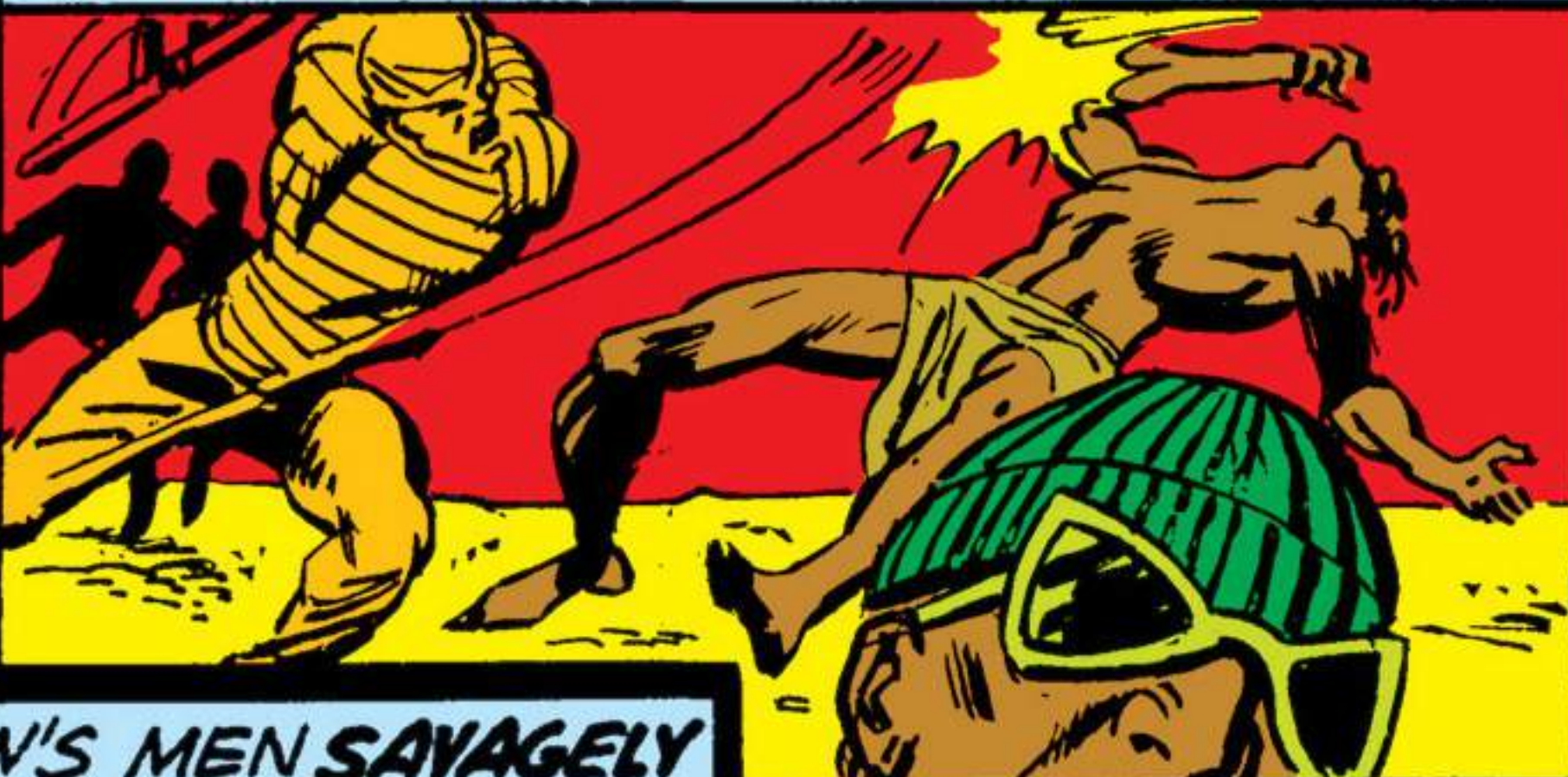
I HAD **HOPED** THAT THE **FIRST FEASTS** UPON MY **RETURN** WOULD BE ONES OF **GAIETY**--

--BUT **GAIETY** HAS BECOME SOMETHING **LOST** TO OUR **SHORES**.

IF ONE MAN CAN **STEAL** SUCH AS THAT...

... THAT MAN IS... **ERIK KILLMONGER**!

"THOUGH, WHEN WE FIRST MET, I KNEW HIM AS **N'JADAKA**-- NOT **KILLMONGER**. HE **APPROACHED** ME, **W'KABI**, WHILE I WAS IN **MONICA'S HOMELAND**-- BUT HIS **ORIGINS ARE WAKANDAN**! HE TOLD ME THAT DURING **KLAW'S INITIAL ATTACK** UPON OUR SOIL* THAT HE WAS **BADLY BEATEN**!



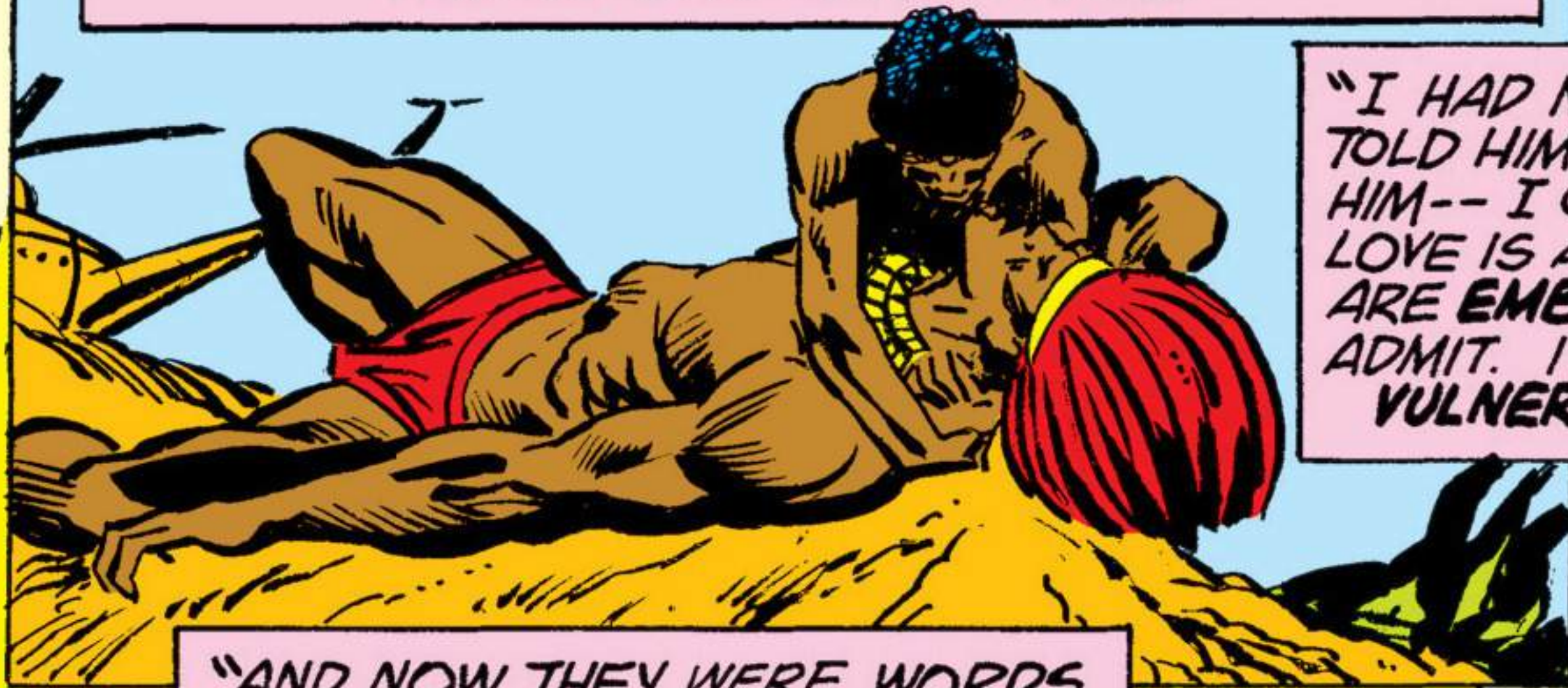
"DURING THE RAID THAT **KILLED MY FATHER**, **KLAW'S MEN SAVAGELY DECIMATED** THE SMALLER VILLAGE SITES, FORCING THE YOUNG MEN AWAY IN CHAINS, TO BE USED AS **SLAVES** IN MINING OUR VALUABLE **VIBRANIUM ORE**!



"**N'JADAKA WAS AMONG THOSE CAPTURED**!

* SHOWN IN **FANTASTIC FOUR #53**--ROY.

"AS FOR MYSELF, I CAN RECALL LITTLE MORE THAN MY FATHER LYING AT MY FEET--HIS WARMTH FADING BENEATH MY HANDS."



"I HAD NEVER REALLY TOLD HIM I'D LOVED HIM-- I GUESS BECAUSE LOVE IS AN EMOTION WE ARE EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT. IT MAKES US VULNERABLE!"

"AND NOW THEY WERE WORDS HE WOULD NEVER HEAR!"

"AS MY FATHER'S BLOOD DRIED UPON MY HANDS, I DESTROYED KLAW'S EFFORTS TO STEAL OUR PRECIOUS VIBRANIUM METAL WHICH ABSORBS ALL ENERGY--"



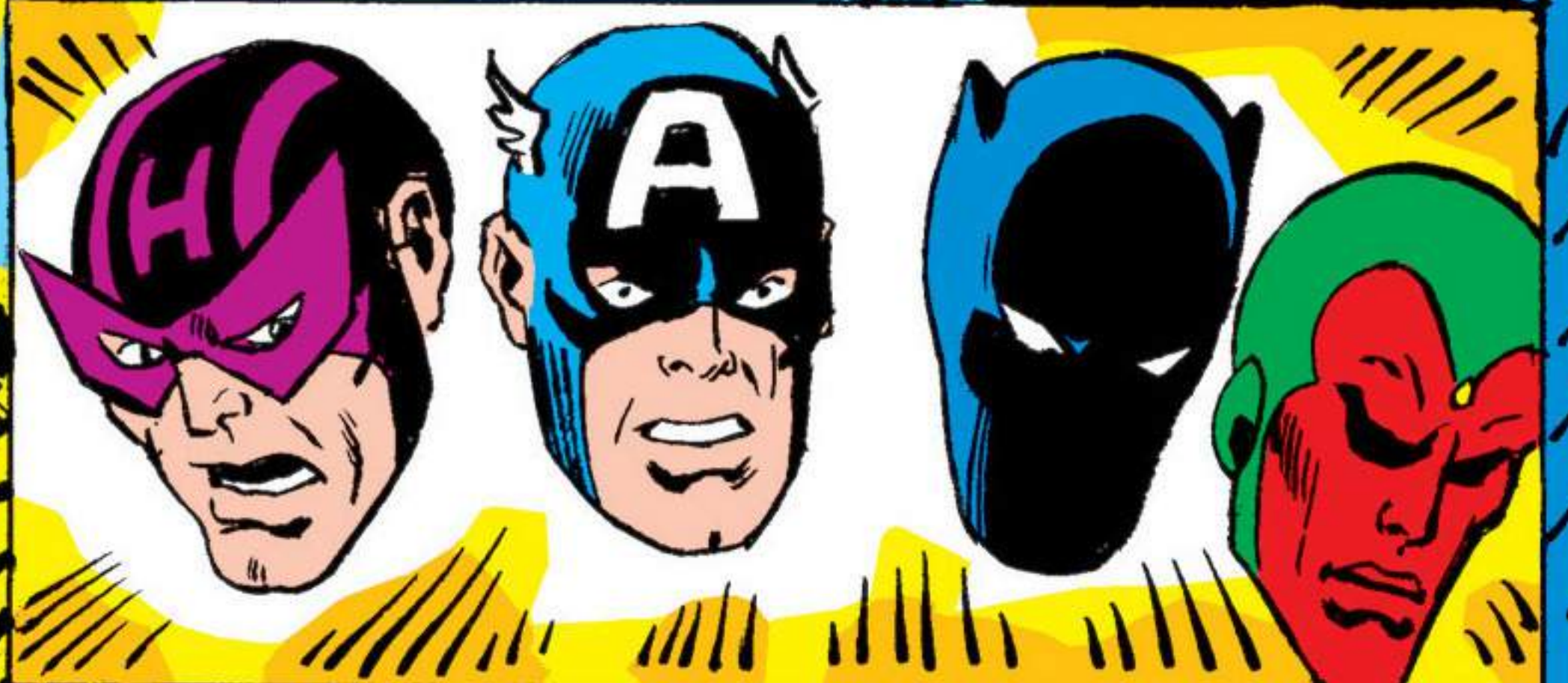
"--BUT THE MERCENARY PAWNS KLAW HAD USED FLED, TURNING THOSE CAPTIVES INTO THEIR PAWNS!"

"N'JADAKA ESCAPED THEIR CLUTCHES AFTER REACHING AMERICAN SHORES--"



"--AND WAS UNDERSTANDABLY EMBITTERED AND DISPLACED-- WITHOUT ANY IDEA HOW TO GET BACK TO THE HIDDEN LANDS OF WAKANDA."

WHEN I FOUGHT ALONGSIDE THE AVENGERS, IN AMERICA, HE RECOGNIZED MY WAKANDAN COSTUME AND CONTACTED ME!



"I BROUGHT HIM BACK WITH ME DURING THAT TIME WE HAD THE TROUBLE ON PANTHER ISLAND-- AND HE VANISHED INTO THE WILDERNESS!"

NOW HE REAPPEARS WITH THE NAME ERIK KILLMONGER.

I CANNOT GUESS HOW HE HAS BECOME SO POWERFUL IN SO FEW YEARS--

-- BUT HE WILL PAY FOR THE SUFFERING HE HAS CAUSED!



VIOLENCE!! THAT'S ALWAYS YOUR ONLY ANSWER, T'CHALLA!

MY CHIEFTAIN, WHY DO YOU ALLOW ZATAMA'S DISRESPECT?



CALM YOURSELF, W'KABI!

ZATAMA'S RADICAL DISPLAY IS OFT A HEALTHIER SIGN--

--THAN APATHY! FOR APATHY IS A SUBTLE KILLER!

THAT'S NO ANSWER, T'CHALLA!

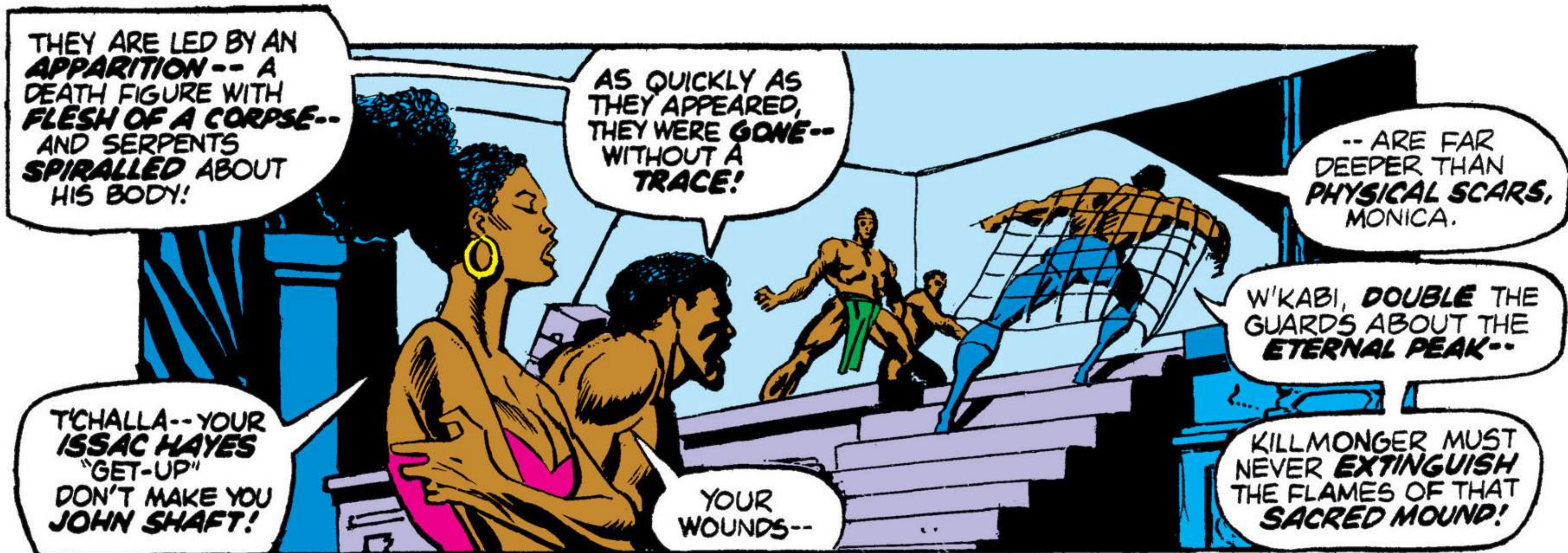
PERHAPS, ZATAMA, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE QUESTION.

THE REMOTE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT SIGHTS MORE ACTIVITY AT WARRIOR FALLS-- PANICKY VOICES CLAIM THEY'VE SEEN--

WHAT'S WRONG, TAKU?



--A DEATHLY LEGION!



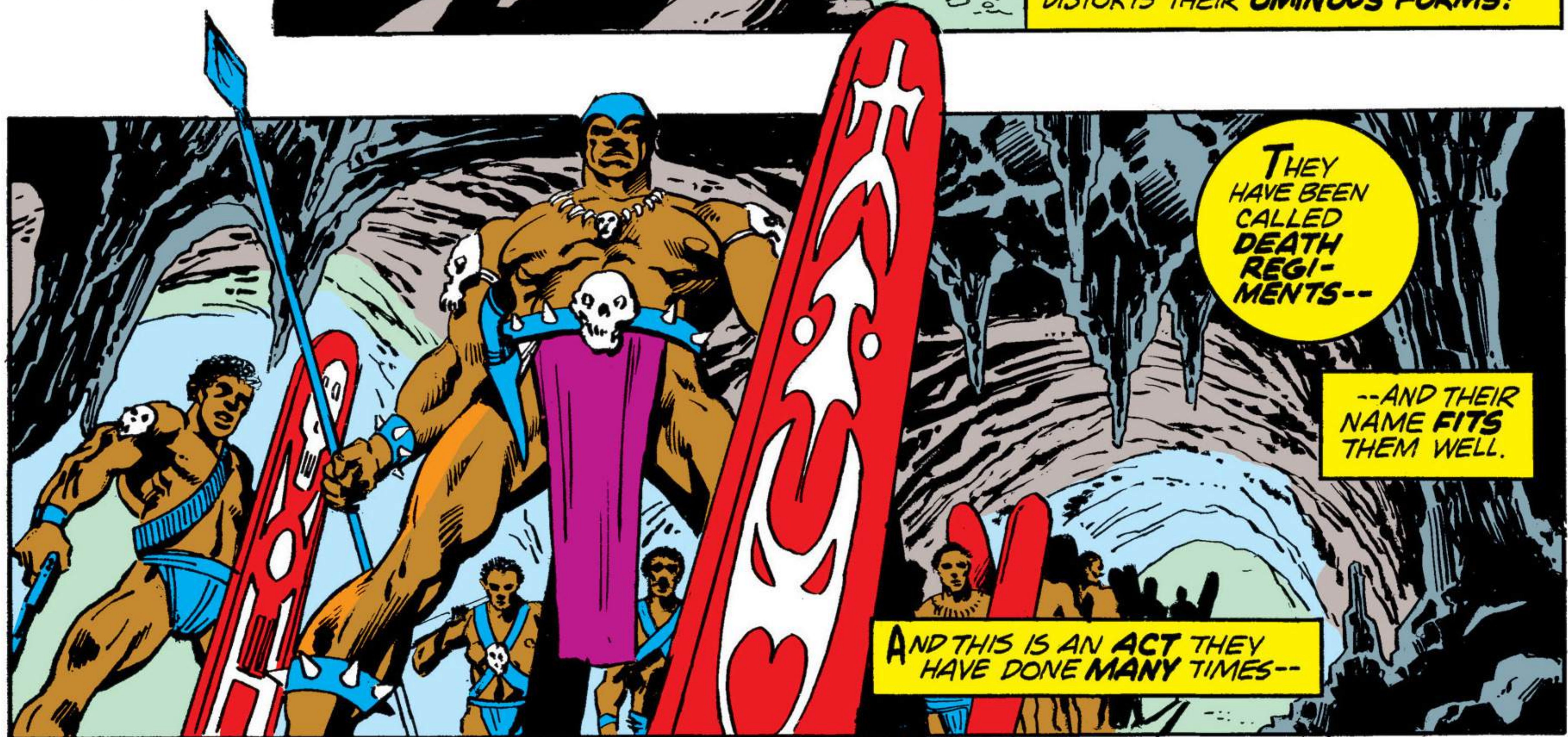
A PRETERNATURAL HUSH
DESCENDS OVER THE
UNTAMED HIGHLAND--

--AS IF THE MYRIAD JUNGLE LIFE
SENSES WITH ANTENNAE, SCENT,
AND HIDDEN EYES...THE ESSENCE OF
DEATH PASSING BY--

--TERRIFYING SPECTERS THAT TREAD
MALEVOLENTLY INTO A SIDE INLET
CAUSED BY BLACK WARRIOR FALLS --



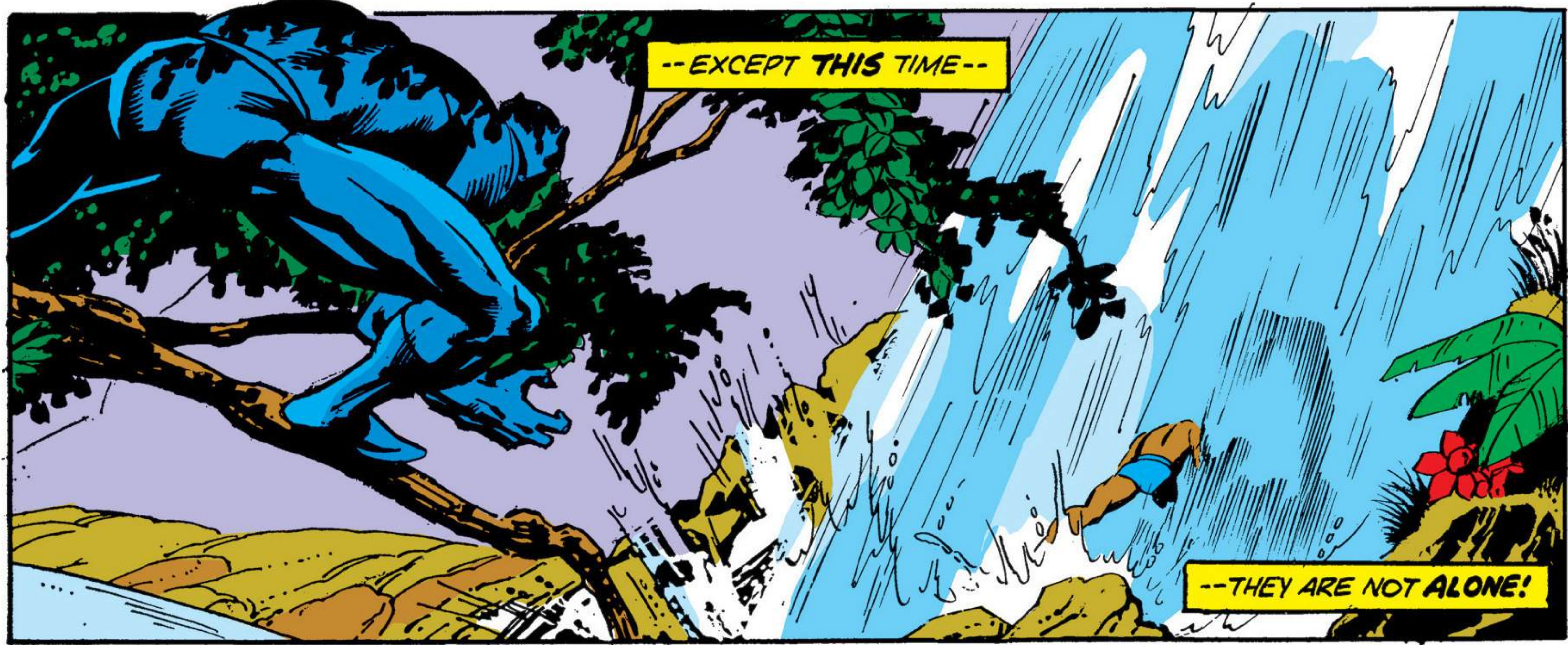
-- BECOMING INCREASINGLY SPECTRAL
AS THE MIST SWALLOWS AND
DISTORTS THEIR OMINOUS FORMS!



THEY
HAVE BEEN
CALLED
DEATH
REGI-
MENTS--

--AND THEIR
NAME FITS
THEM WELL.

AND THIS IS AN ACT THEY
HAVE DONE MANY TIMES--



-- EXCEPT THIS TIME--

--THEY ARE NOT ALONE!



--THE PANTHER
FOLLOWS!

**HIS CAT-LIKE
EYES
REGISTER THE
ROCK HEWN
WALLS --**

**--AND A STARTLING
PREMONITION TELLS HIM
WHERE THIS SHADOW-
FRAUGHT PASSAGE LEADS!**

**BUT AT
THE
TRAIL'S END,
THE SIGHT
THAT
SEARS
HIS EYES--**

-- BATHED IN EERIE
ILLUMINOSITY, THE
VALUABLE ORE
STREAKING THROUGH
THE STONE WALLS
RADIATING A
BLUISH OVERCAST!

**THE PANTHER
KNOWS HE IS
DIRECTLY
UNDER THE
SACRED
MOUND OF
VIBRANIUM--**

--AND THAT
ALL THE
GUARDS
THAT
STAND
VIGILANCE
OVER THIS
SUBSTANCE
WHICH
ABSORBS
ALL
VIBRA-
TIONS--

-- WILL NEVER
REALIZE THAT
THE VERY MOUND
UPON WHICH THEY
STAND--

**-- IS BEING
HOLLOWED OUT
BENEATH THEIR
FEET!**

AND THEN THERE IS A
SINISTER SOUND--
JUST BEFORE A DOUBLE-
PRONGED BULLWHIP
RIPS ABOUT HIS THROAT
AND CHEST!

THE PANTHER HAS ONE
BLURRED IMAGE OF THE
MAN BEHIND HIM, AND KNOWS
THIS IS THE CORPSE WHO LEADS
THE DEATH REGIMENTS!

ELONGATED, SCALY SERPENTS
WRITHE ABOUT HIS BODY;
RETRACTILE, FORKED TONGUES
DARTING BETWEEN POISONOUS,
RECURVED TEETH!

BUT IT
IS THE
NEARLY
PALPABLE
HATRED
THE
PANTHER
SENSES
MOST--

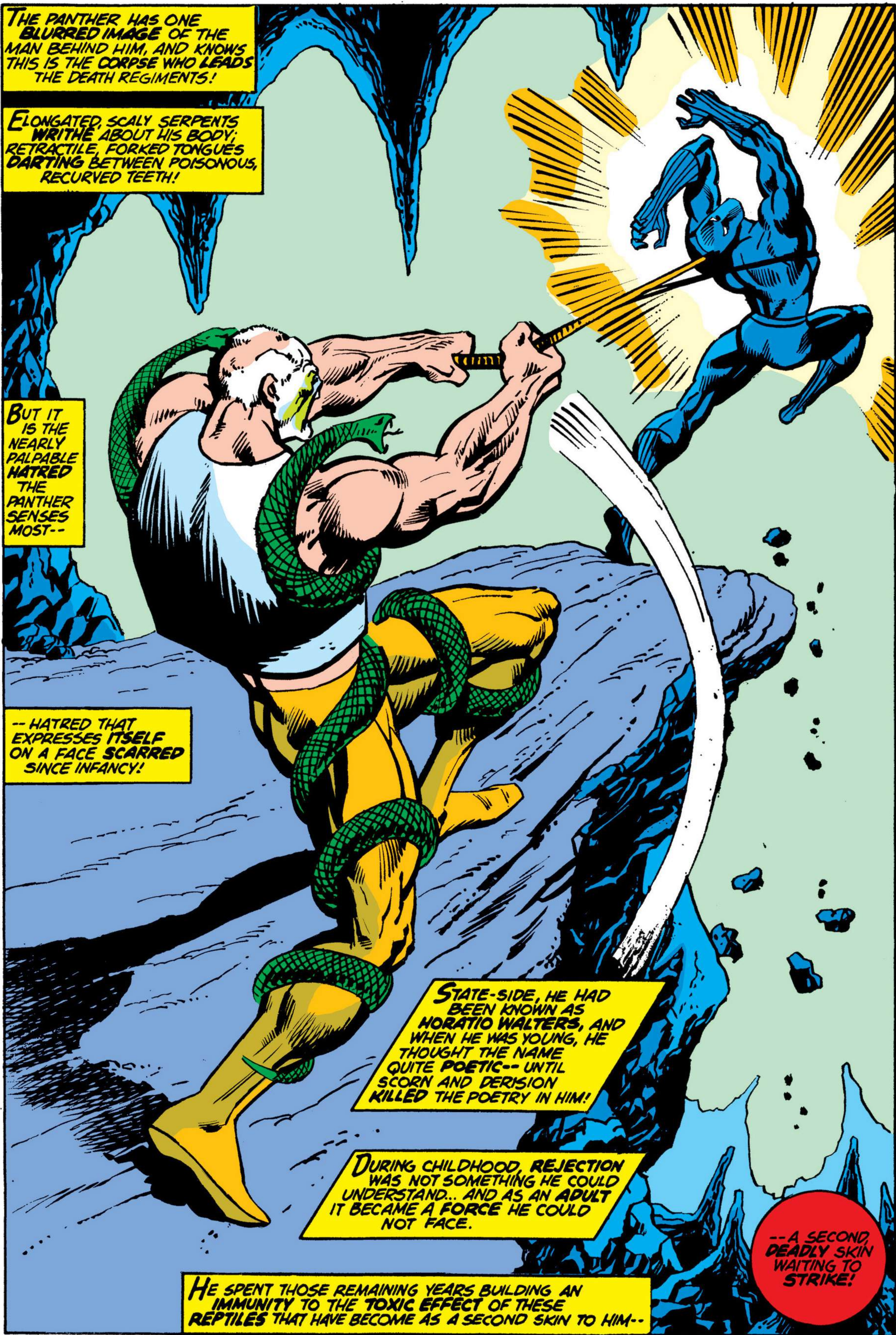
-- HATRED THAT
EXPRESSES ITSELF
ON A FACE SCARRED
SINCE INFANCY!

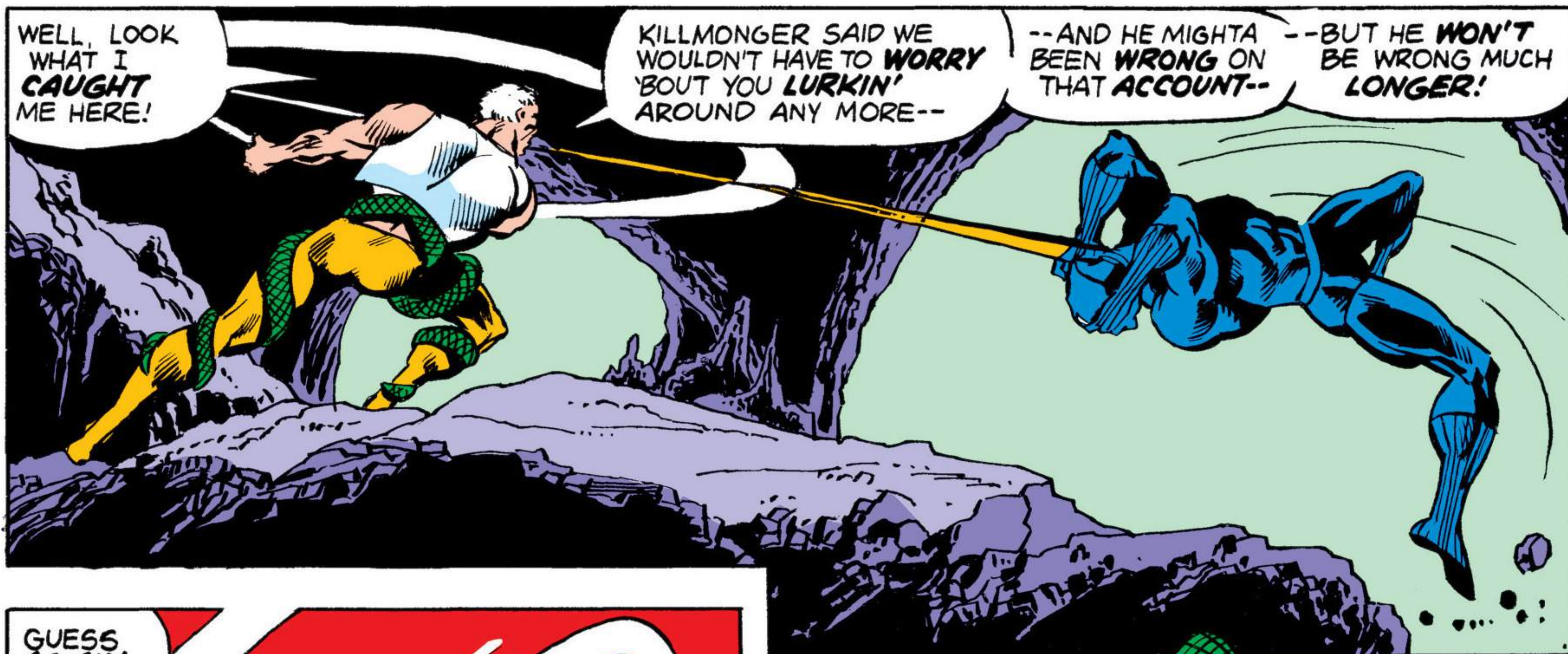
STATE-SIDE, HE HAD
BEEN KNOWN AS
HORATIO WALTERS, AND
WHEN HE WAS YOUNG, HE
THOUGHT THE NAME
QUITE POETIC-- UNTIL
SCORN AND DERISION
KILLED THE POETRY IN HIM!

DURING CHILDHOOD, REJECTION
WAS NOT SOMETHING HE COULD
UNDERSTAND... AND AS AN ADULT
IT BECAME A FORCE HE COULD
NOT FACE.

HE SPENT THOSE REMAINING YEARS BUILDING AN
IMMUNITY TO THE TOXIC EFFECT OF THESE
REPTILES THAT HAVE BECOME AS A SECOND SKIN TO HIM--

--A SECOND
DEADLY SKIN
WAITING TO
STRIKE!



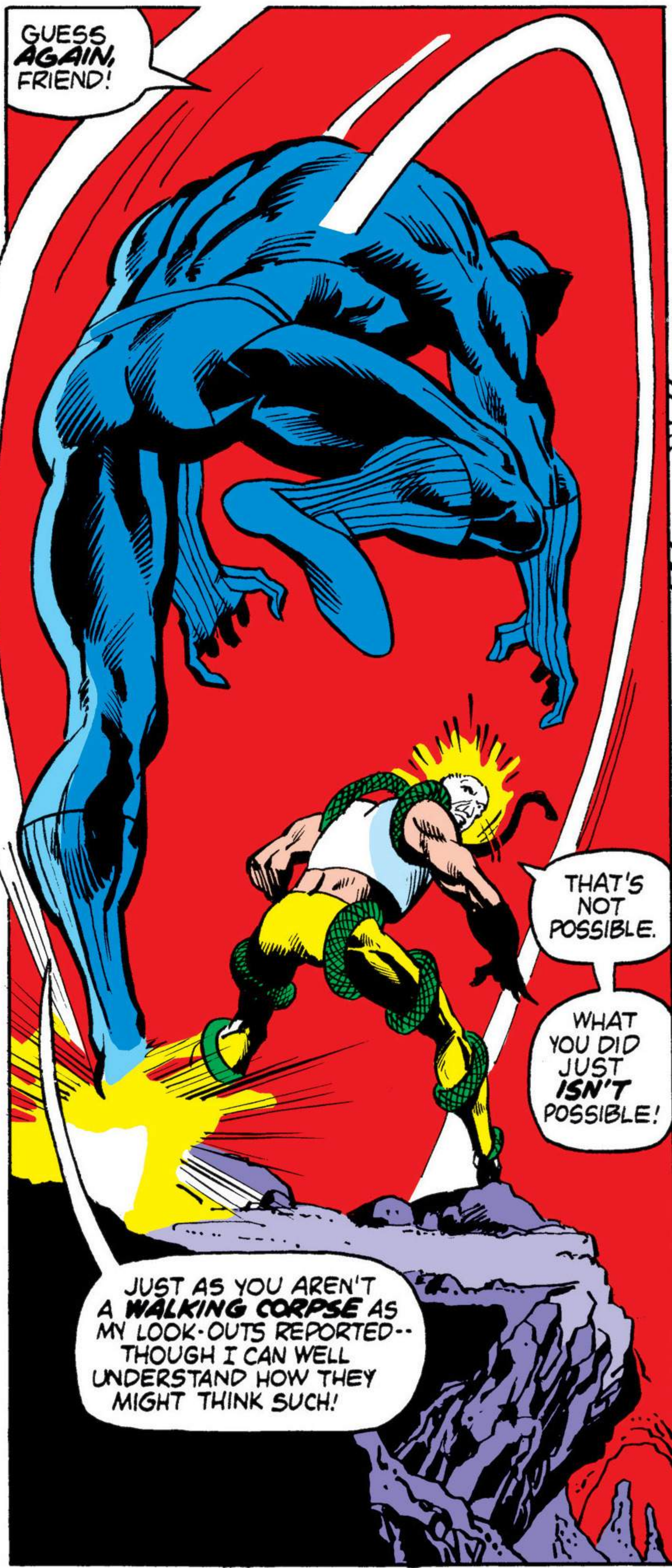


WELL, LOOK WHAT I **CAUGHT** ME HERE!

KILLMONGER SAID WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO **WORRY** 'BOUT YOU **LURKIN'** AROUND ANY MORE--

--AND HE MIGHTA BEEN **WRONG** ON THAT **ACCOUNT--**

--BUT HE **WON'T** BE **WRONG** MUCH **LONGER!**



GUESS **AGAIN,** FRIEND!

THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

WHAT YOU DID JUST **ISN'T** POSSIBLE!

JUST AS YOU AREN'T A **WALKING CORPSE** AS MY LOOK-OUTS REPORTED-- THOUGH I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND HOW THEY MIGHT THINK SUCH!



PEOPLE BEEN CALLIN' ME A **SIDESHOW FREAK** SINCE I CAN REMEMBER--

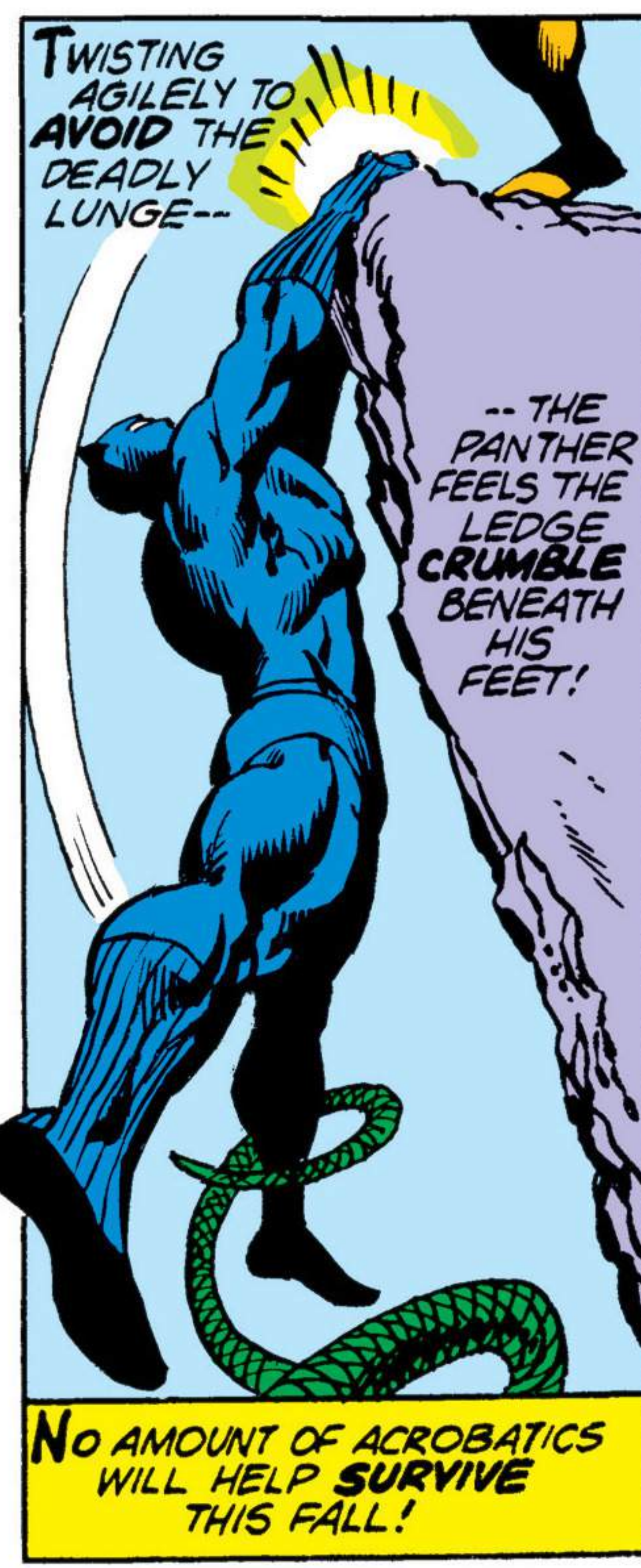
'CEPT NOW, I CAN **STRIKE BACK!**

THE NAME'S **VENOMM,** PANTHER--

--AND AS MY "PET'S" **FANGS** STRIKE--



--REMEMBER **THAT** NAME-- REMEMBER IT AS YOU **SLOWLY DIE!**



TWISTING AGILELY TO **AVOID** THE **DEADLY LUNGE--**

--THE **PANTHER** FEELS THE **LEDGE CRUMBLE** BENEATH HIS **FEET!**

NO AMOUNT OF **ACROBATICS** WILL HELP **SURVIVE** THIS **FALL!**



YOU JUST KEEP ON **SURPRIZIN' ME!**

KILLMONGER DIDN'T **EXAGGERATE** A BIT ABOUT YOU!

BUT THERE'S NOTHIN' **LEFT** TO GRAB ONTO AFTER THIS **EDGE--!**



YOU CAN TWIST YOURSELF INTO A **PRETZEL--**

BUT IT **WON'T** DO YOU A BIT 'A GOOD!

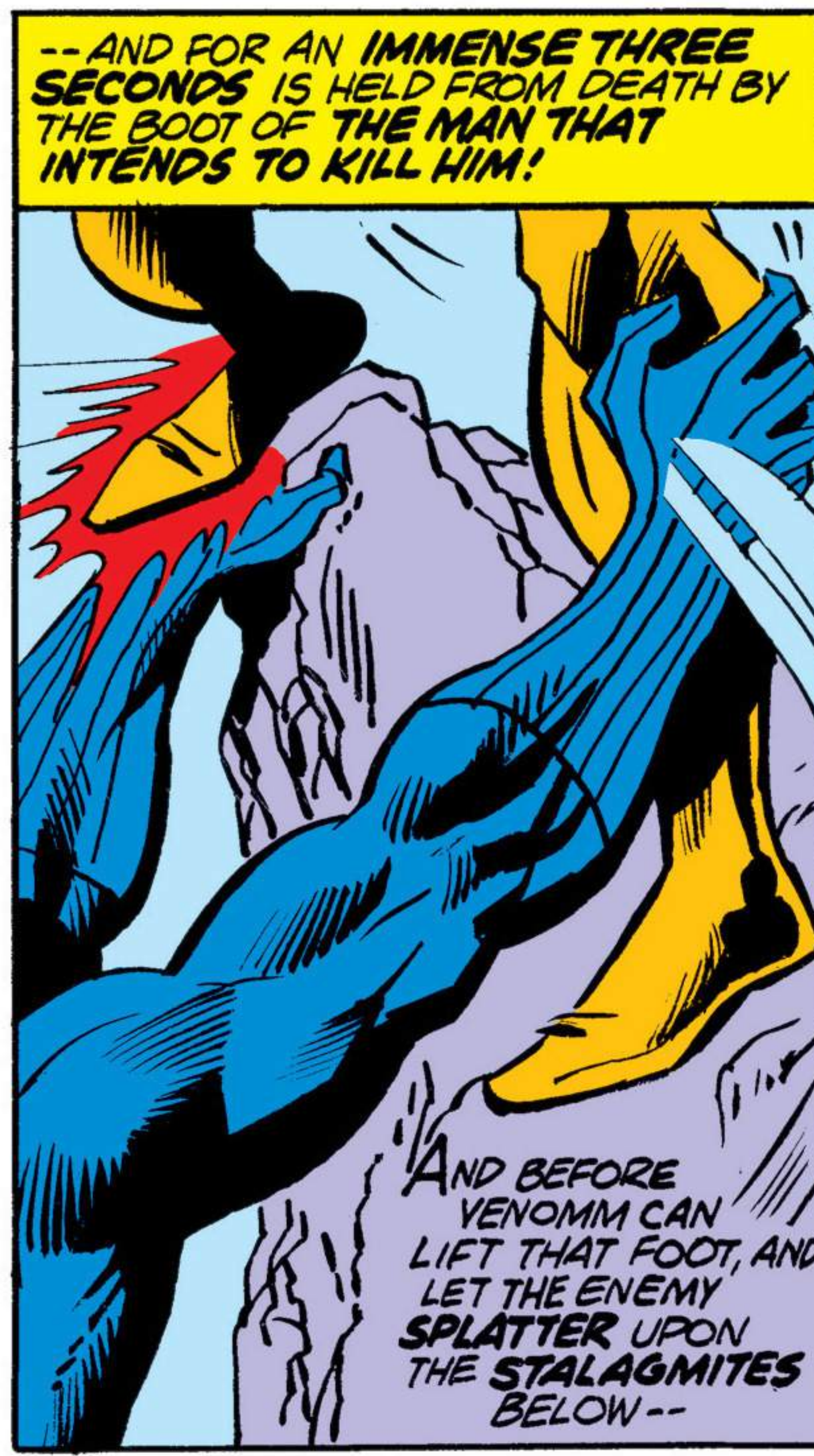
YOU'RE A **REAL** DEAD MAN THIS TIME, PANTHER!

VENOMM'S WORDS **RICOCET** HAUNTINGLY OFF THE **CAVERN WALLS--**

--AND THEN, THE PANTHER DOES WHAT FEW OTHER MEN WOULD EVER DARE ATTEMPT!

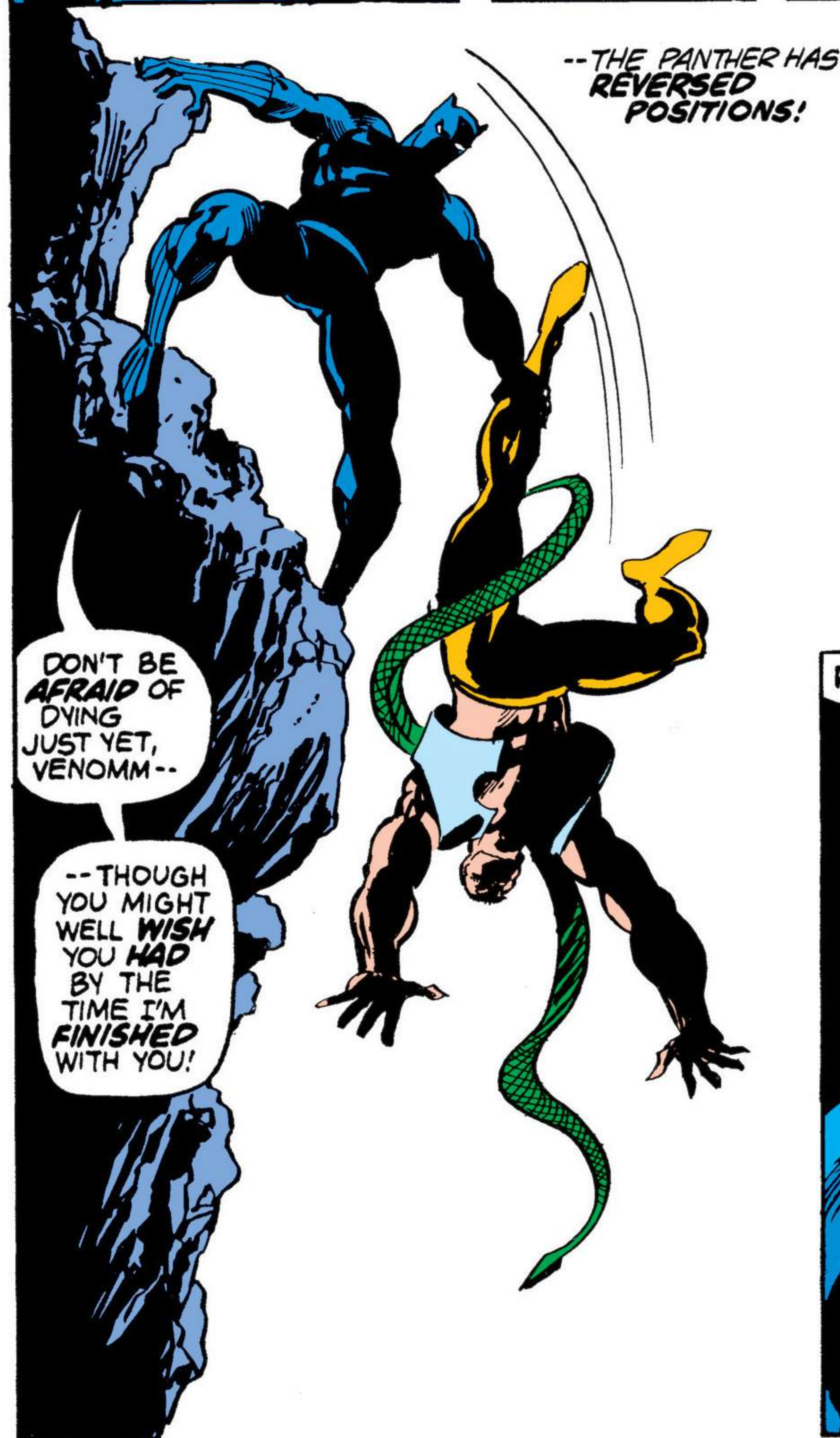


HE LETS HIS FREE HAND SWING AWAY FROM HIS **LIFE-HOLD--**



--AND FOR AN **IMMENSE THREE SECONDS** IS HELD FROM DEATH BY THE BOOT OF THE MAN THAT INTENDS TO KILL HIM!

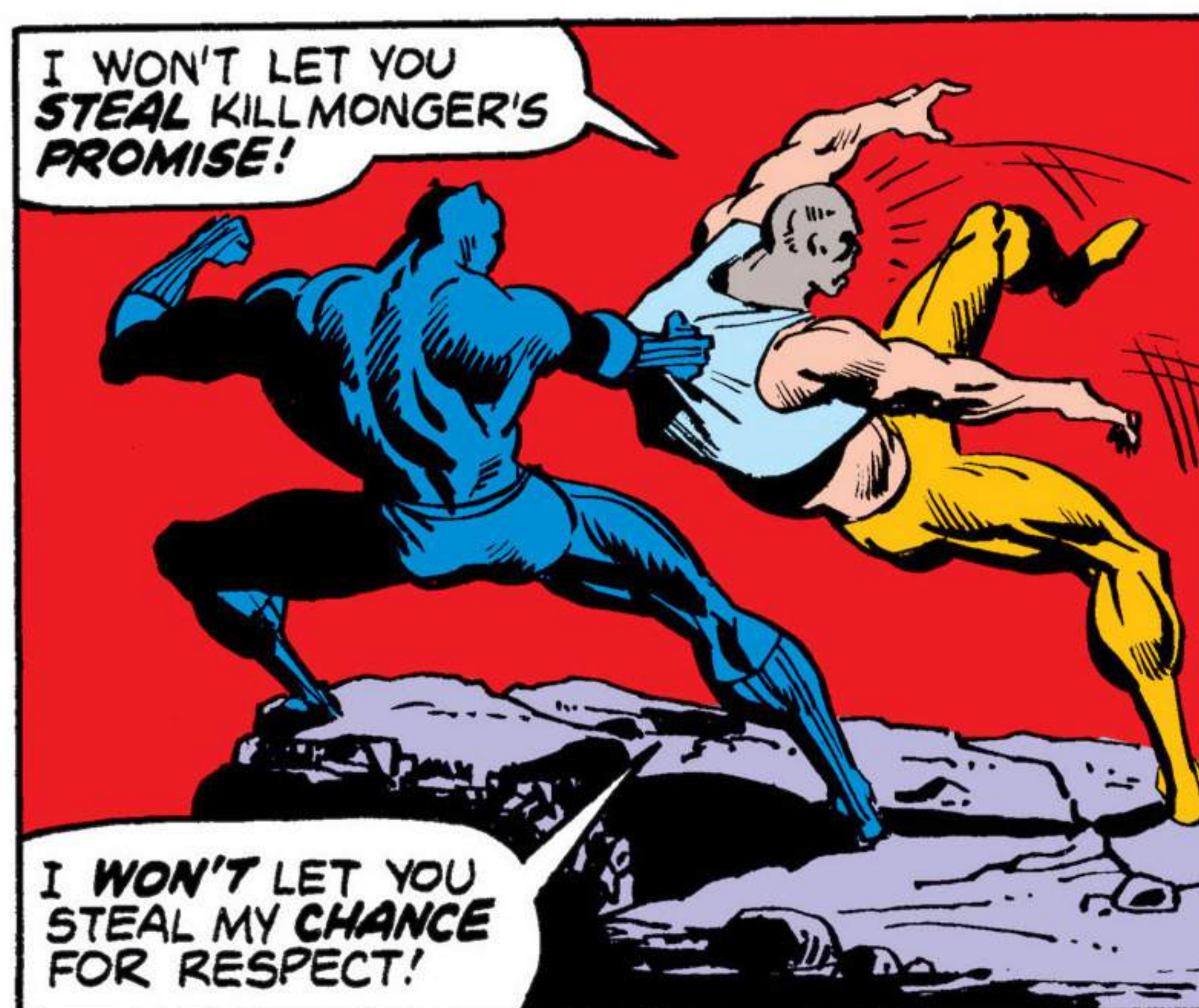
AND BEFORE VENOMM CAN LIFT THAT FOOT, AND LET THE ENEMY **SPLATTER** UPON THE **STALAGMITES** BELOW--



--THE PANTHER HAS **REVERSED POSITIONS!**

DON'T BE **AFRAID** OF DYING JUST YET, VENOMM--

--THOUGH YOU MIGHT WELL **WISH** YOU **HAD** BY THE TIME I'M **FINISHED** WITH YOU!



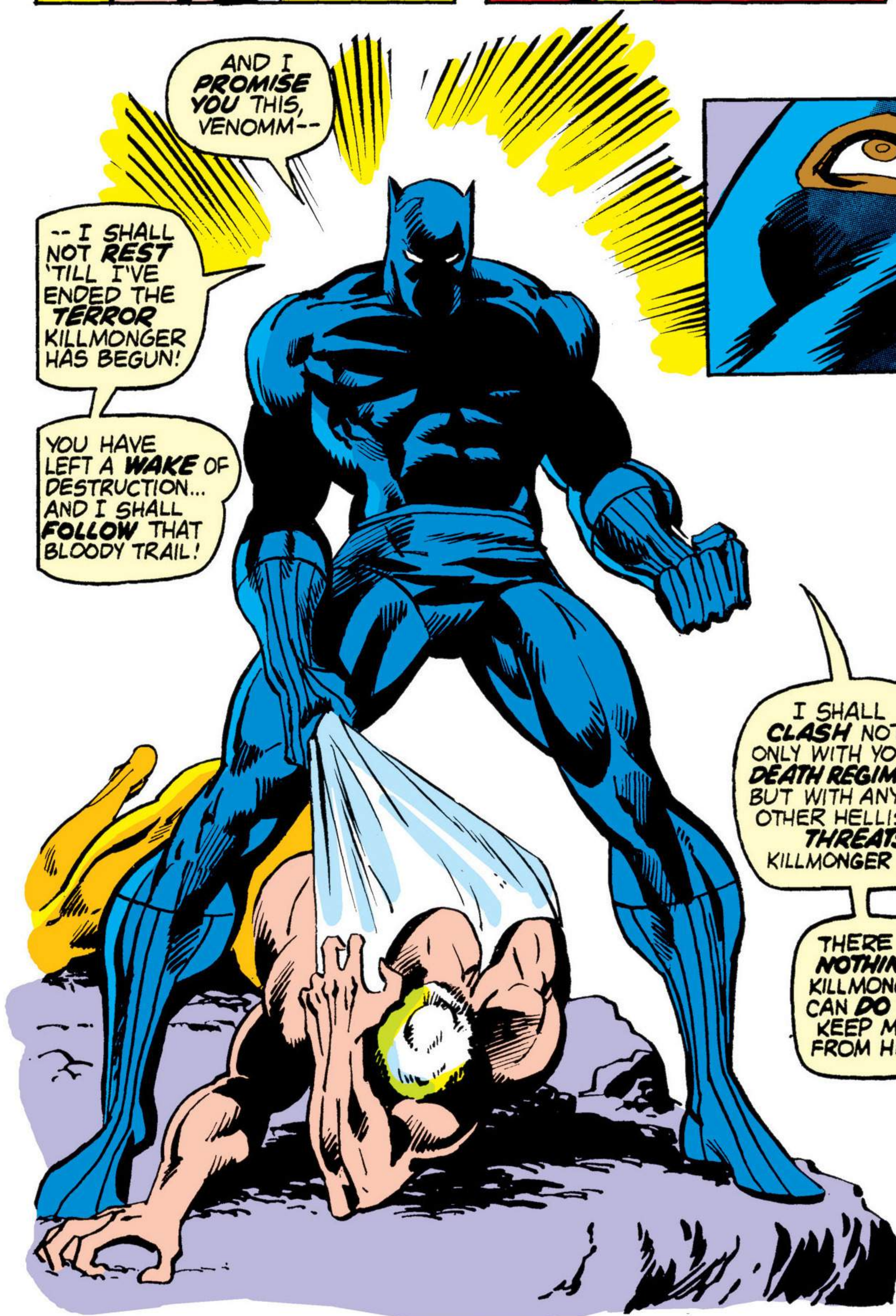
I WON'T LET YOU **STEAL** KILLMONGER'S **PROMISE!**

I **WON'T** LET YOU **STEAL** MY **CHANCE** FOR **RESPECT!**



RESPECT!

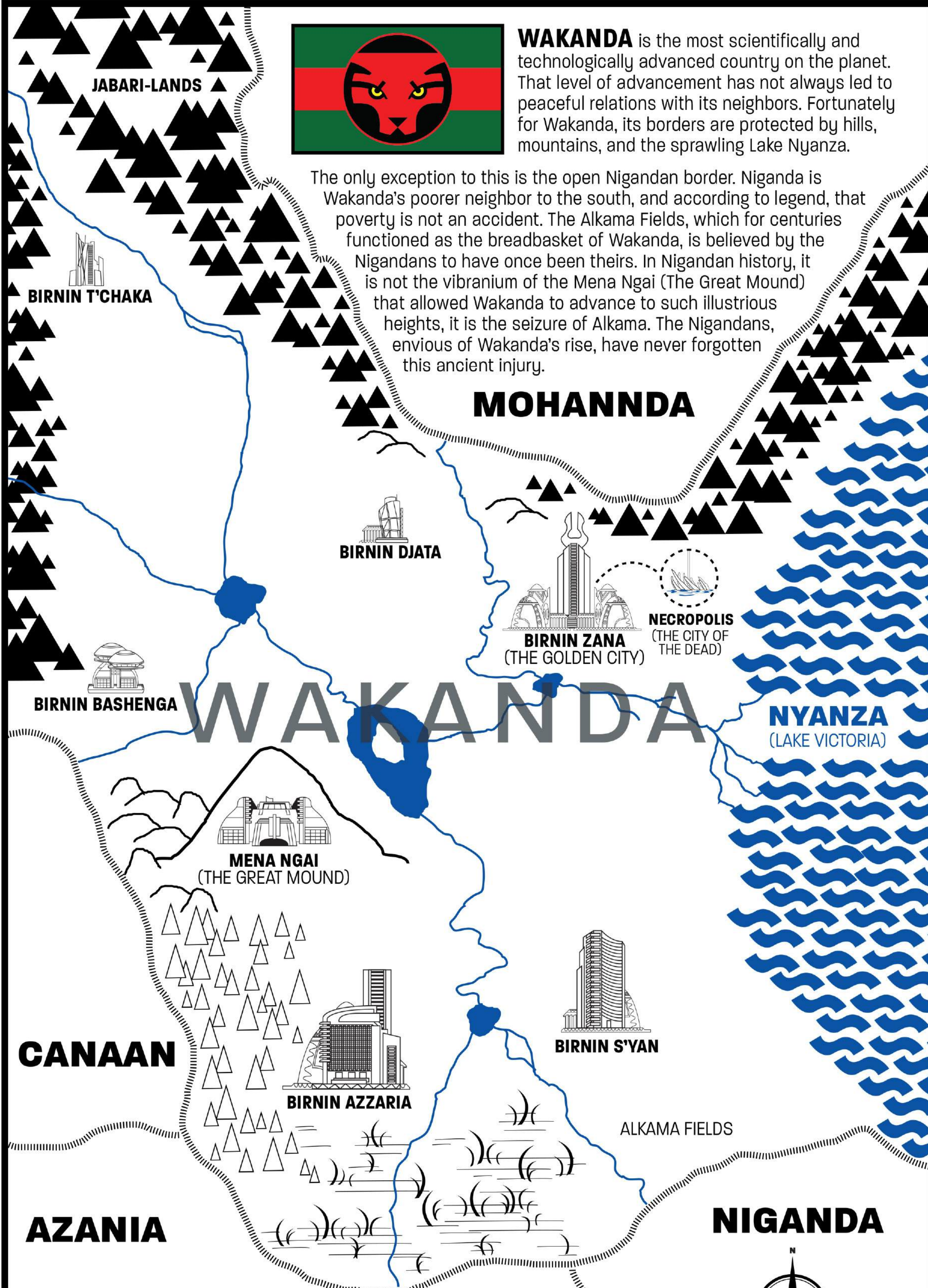
SPEAK NOT TO ME OF **RESPECT!**





WAKANDA is the most scientifically and technologically advanced country on the planet. That level of advancement has not always led to peaceful relations with its neighbors. Fortunately for Wakanda, its borders are protected by hills, mountains, and the sprawling Lake Nyanza.

The only exception to this is the open Nigandan border. Niganda is Wakanda's poorer neighbor to the south, and according to legend, that poverty is not an accident. The Alkama Fields, which for centuries functioned as the breadbasket of Wakanda, is believed by the Nigandans to have once been theirs. In Nigandan history, it is not the vibranium of the Mena Ngai (The Great Mound) that allowed Wakanda to advance to such illustrious heights, it is the seizure of Alkama. The Nigandans, envious of Wakanda's rise, have never forgotten this ancient injury.



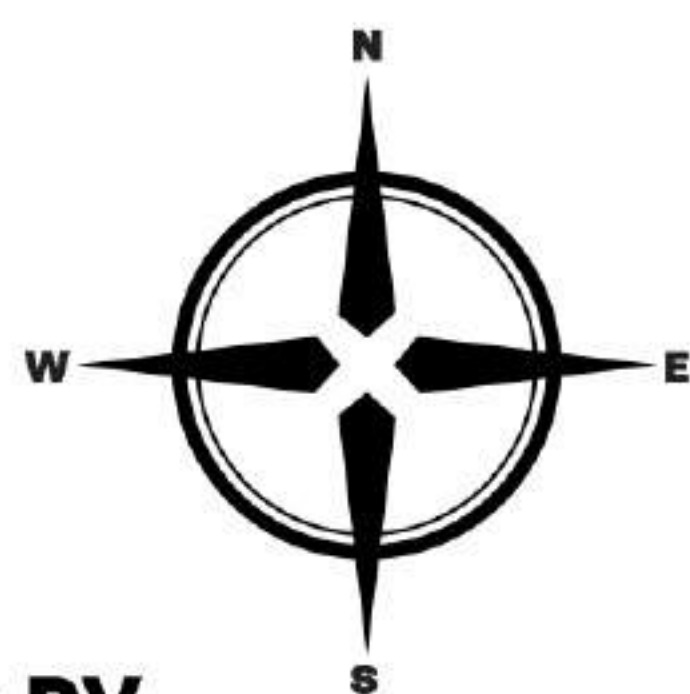
CANAAN

AZANIA

MOHANNDA

NYANZA
(LAKE VICTORIA)

NIGANDA

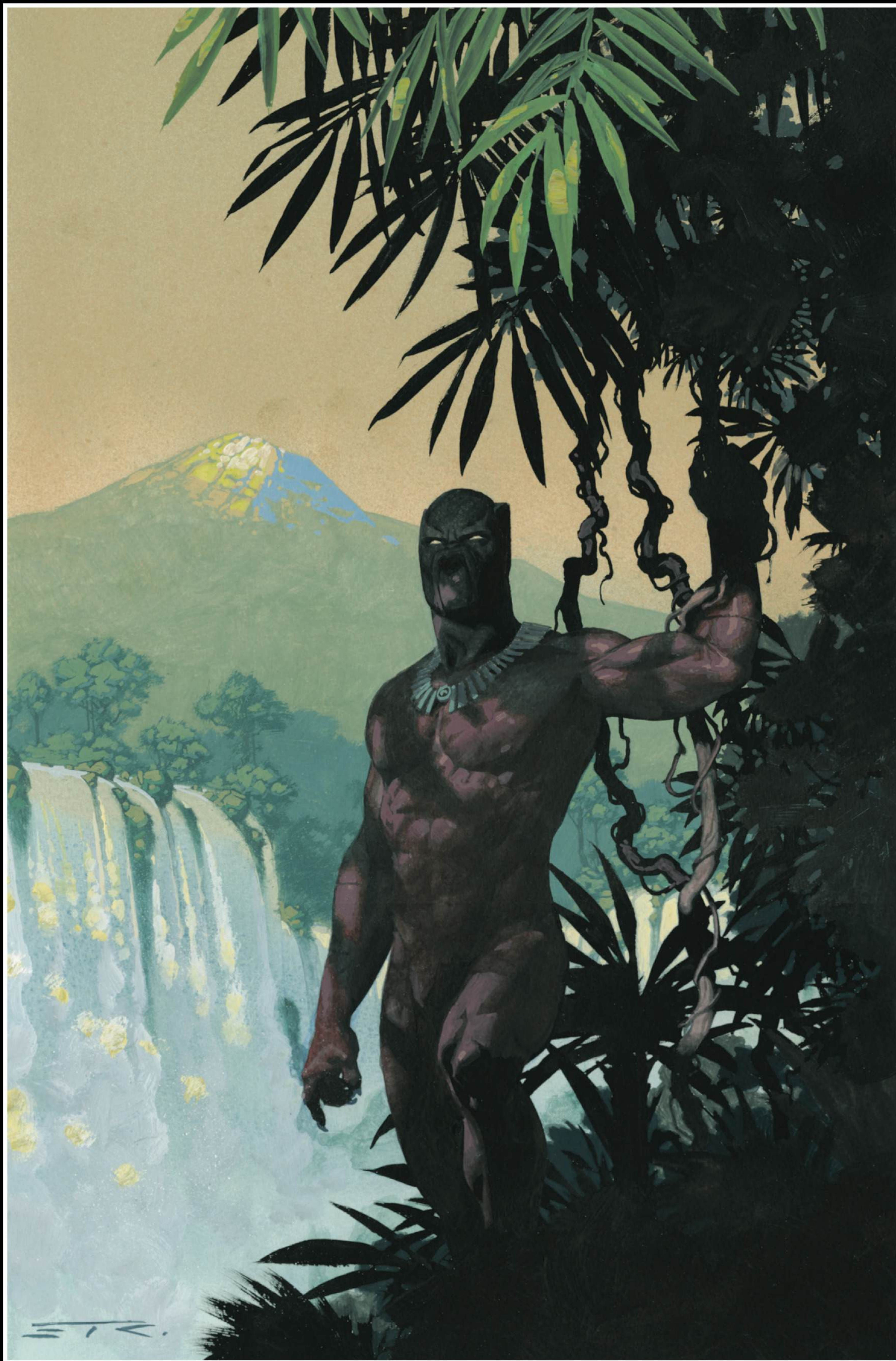


On this map are various cities beginning with the appellation "Birnin" -- Wakandan for "city." Each city on this map is named after a famous Black Panther, and each is actually more like a fortress than a city, protecting the entryways into Wakanda.

Wakanda was navigable mostly by a system of rivers, and the political geography of the country is still dominated by this fact.

MAP BY
TA-NEHISI COATES
& **MANNY MEDEROS**





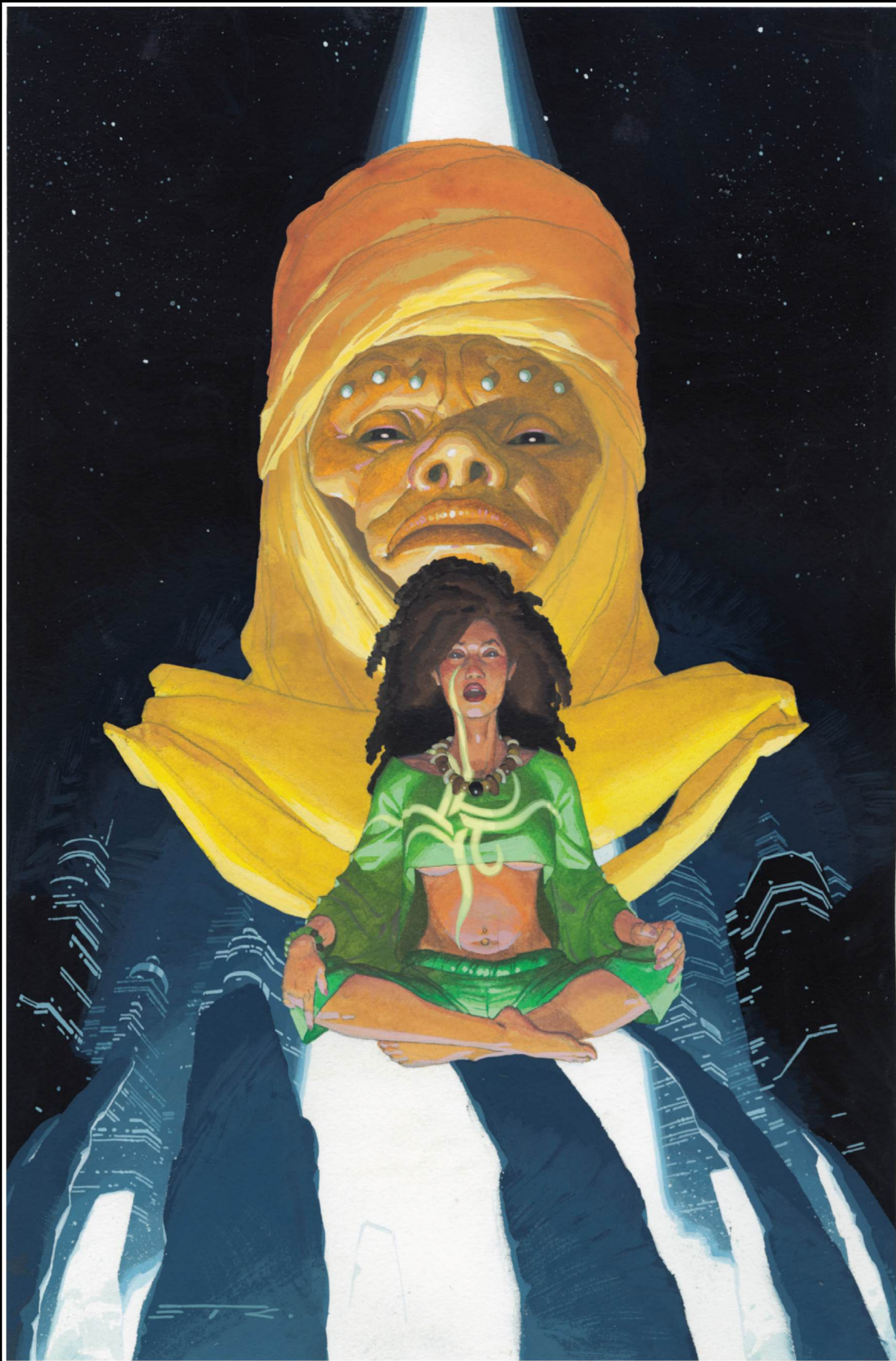


#5 CLASSIC VARIANT BY **GREG HILDEBRANDT**



#5 CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS GAME VARIANT
BY **KABAM** WITH **GABRIEL FRIZZERA**





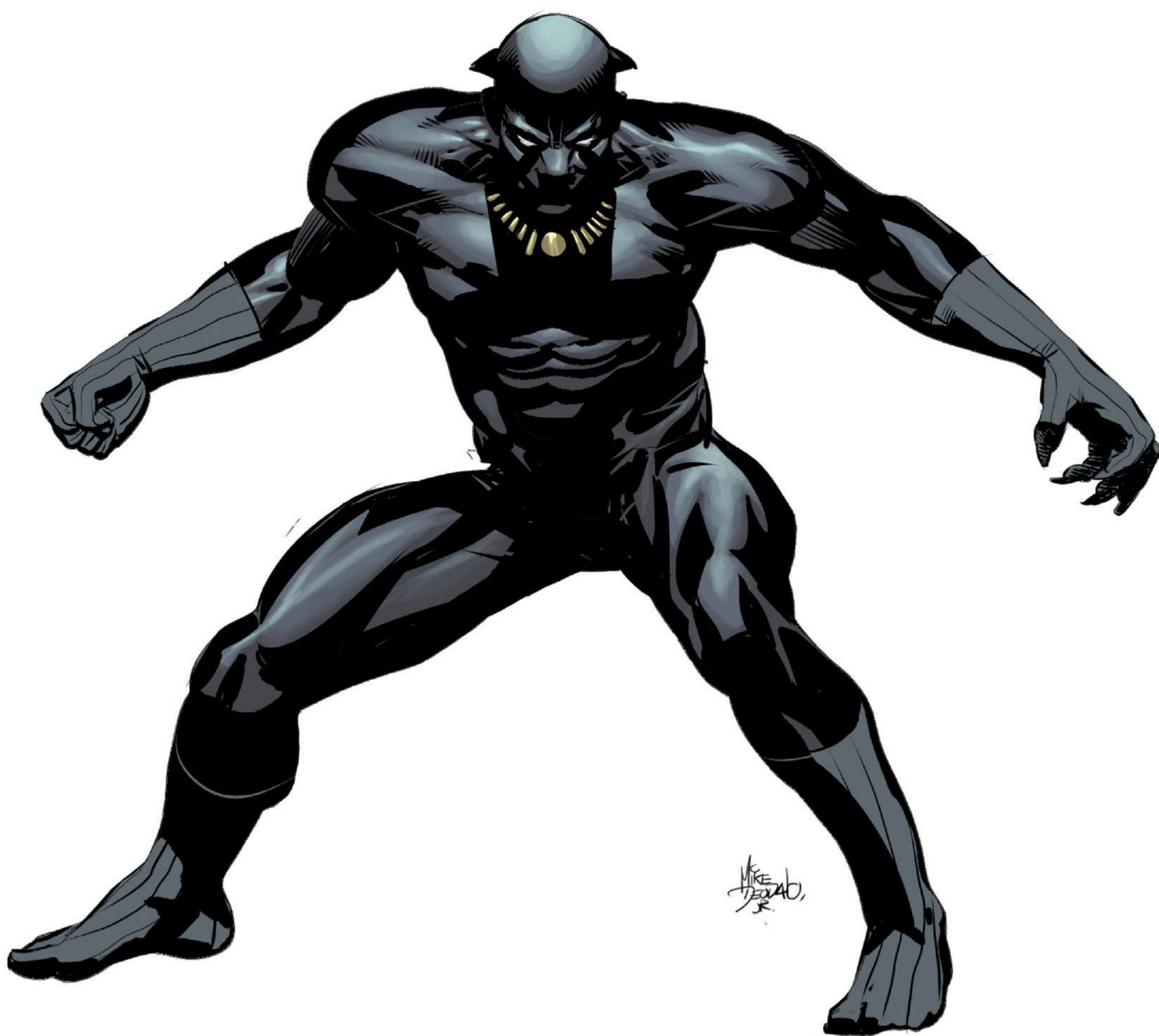






king t'challa long live wakanda









PAGE 1

PANEL 1

Open up with T'Challa. Mask off. Suit on. He's chained on the floor. ZEKE STANE is seated and over him. ANDREA and ANDREAS VON STRUCKER, VANISHER, and several SUN-TOUCHERS in the same room. It's a big room like a warehouse. The VON STRUCKERS are standing above, on a metal platform.

ZEKE STANE

I always thought I'd make a great king. I mean, I've got all the right attributes.

ZEKE STANE

Wise beyond my years.

ZEKE STANE

A regal mien.

PANEL 2

ZEKE STANE kicks T'CHALLA. T'CHALLA looks pained.

ZEKE STANE

A love of wanton cruelty.

PANEL 3

Pause here for a second. A shot of T'CHALLA. I want to pace this just right. It feels like there should be a beat here, before T'CHALLA turns the tables. T'CHALLA now looks like he might know something.

NO DIALOGUE

PANEL 4

T'CHALLA on the floor, looking up at ZEKE STANE. More confident now. Almost smiling perhaps--but sinisterly.

T'CHALLA

Ezekiel Stane...

T'CHALLA

...You are no longer useful to me.

PANEL 5

ZEKE STANE looking puzzled.

NO DIALOGUE

PANEL 6

ZEKE STANE now figuring it all out.

ZEKE STANE

Holy Hell...



PAGE 2

PANEL 1

Big splash panel. MANIFOLD opening a portal. We see STORM, LUKE CAGE, and MISTY KNIGHT bursting through. We see some of TETU's Sun-Touchers falling back under assault. ZEKE STANE and the SUN-TOUCHERS are falling back from the attack.

ZEKE STANE

Incoming!

PAGE 3

PANEL 1

Focus on MISTY KNIGHT side-kicking a SUN-TOUCHER. STORM flying overhead.

MISTY KNIGHT

What, no red, black and green?
No Kwanzaa cake? I come back
home, and this is reception I get?



PANEL 2

STORM using wind to blow several of the SUN-TOUCHERS backwards. MISTY KNIGHT fighting below.

STORM

Still better than the the knife-wielding thugs I found in Harlem, Misty. You do remember, don't you?

MISTY KNIGHT

I resent the term "thug."

PANEL 3

Now LUKE CAGE with like five dudes hanging on him.

LUKE CAGE

That's 'cause you a thug.

PANEL 4

MISTY KNIGHT pummels some other dude.

MISTY KNIGHT

For life.



PAGE 4

PANEL 1

VANISHER teleports in front of MISTY KNIGHT and LUKE CAGE.

VANISHER

Laugh now, bums.

PANEL 2

VANISHER teleports again and hits MISTY several times. Can we make this panel look like a constant motion of teleporting and fighting with VANISHER getting the upper hand?

VANISHER

You'll all be crying once the Vanisher's through.

PANEL 3

Another panel with VANISHER teleporting into the air and punching STORM.

NO DIALOGUE

PANEL 4

ANDREA and ANDREAS join hands and fire a concussive bolt, hitting STORM who is grounded. They are standing on a platform above the fray.

ANDREAS

Look who's joined us, Andrea!

ANDREA

Why it's the Kaffir-queen!

PANEL 5

LUKE CAGE crashes into the platform causing the VON STRUCKER twins to stumble to the ground.

LUKE CAGE

No, it's the Kaffir-crew.



PAGE 5

PANEL 1

MISTY KNIGHT, now recovering. MAN-IFOLD attacking THE VANISHER. LUKE CAGE in the background fighting.

MISTY KNIGHT

I don't think you get to say that.

LUKE CAGE

What—Kaffir?

MISTY KNIGHT

No, *crew*. The name sucks.

PANEL 2

ZEKE STANE fires at MISTY KNIGHT and LUKE CAGE below.

ZEKE STANE

Here's a name for all of you--
rigor mortis.

PANEL 3

T'CHALLA, from the ground, leg-sweeps ZEKE STANE to the ground. His hands are still bound.

NO DIALOGUE

PANEL 4

T'CHALLA is now standing and facing off with ZEKE STANE looking ready to go.

ZEKE STANE

Seriously?

ZEKE STANE

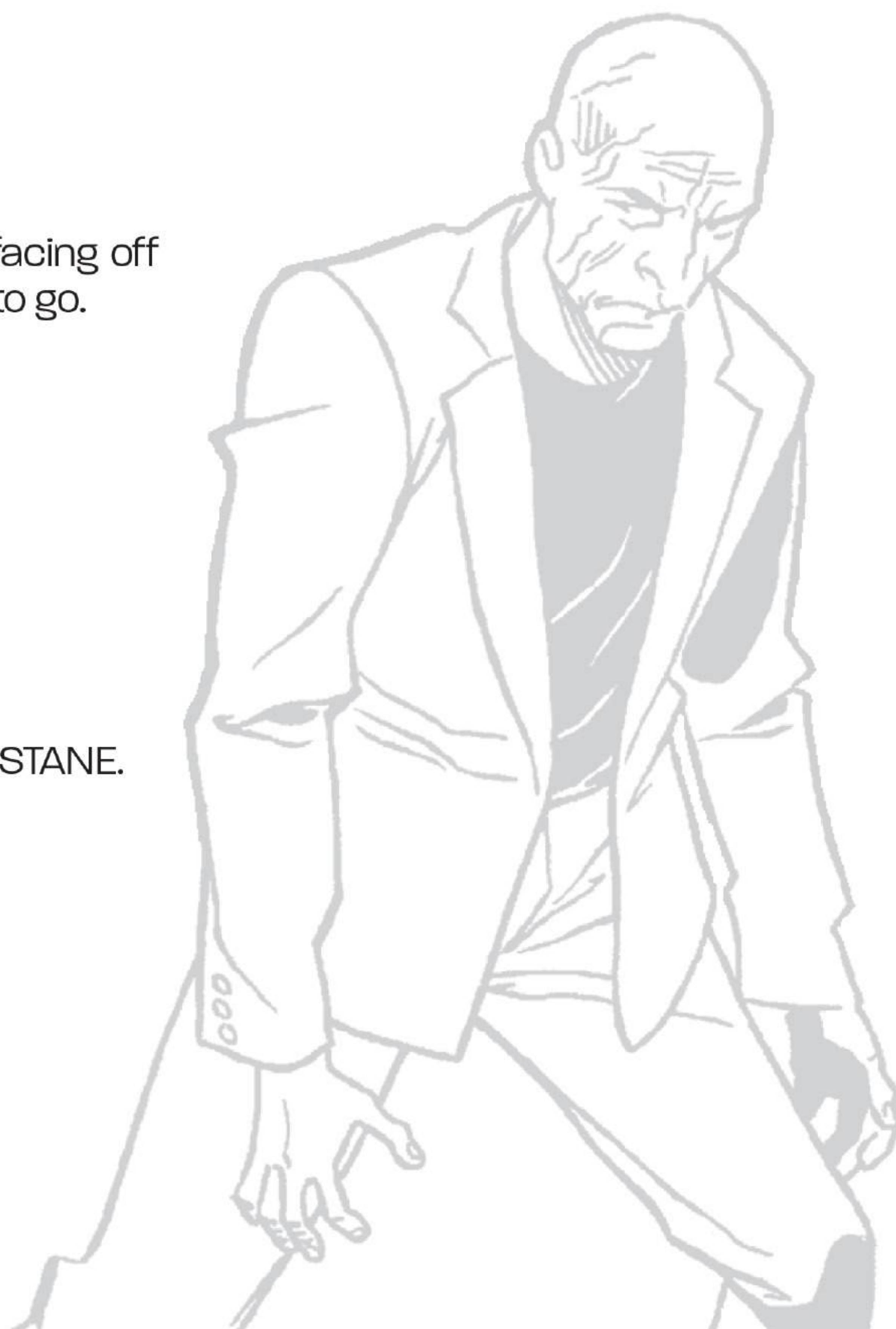
Literally with both hands
behind your back?

PANEL 5

T'CHALLA looking mean at ZEKE STANE.

T'CHALLA

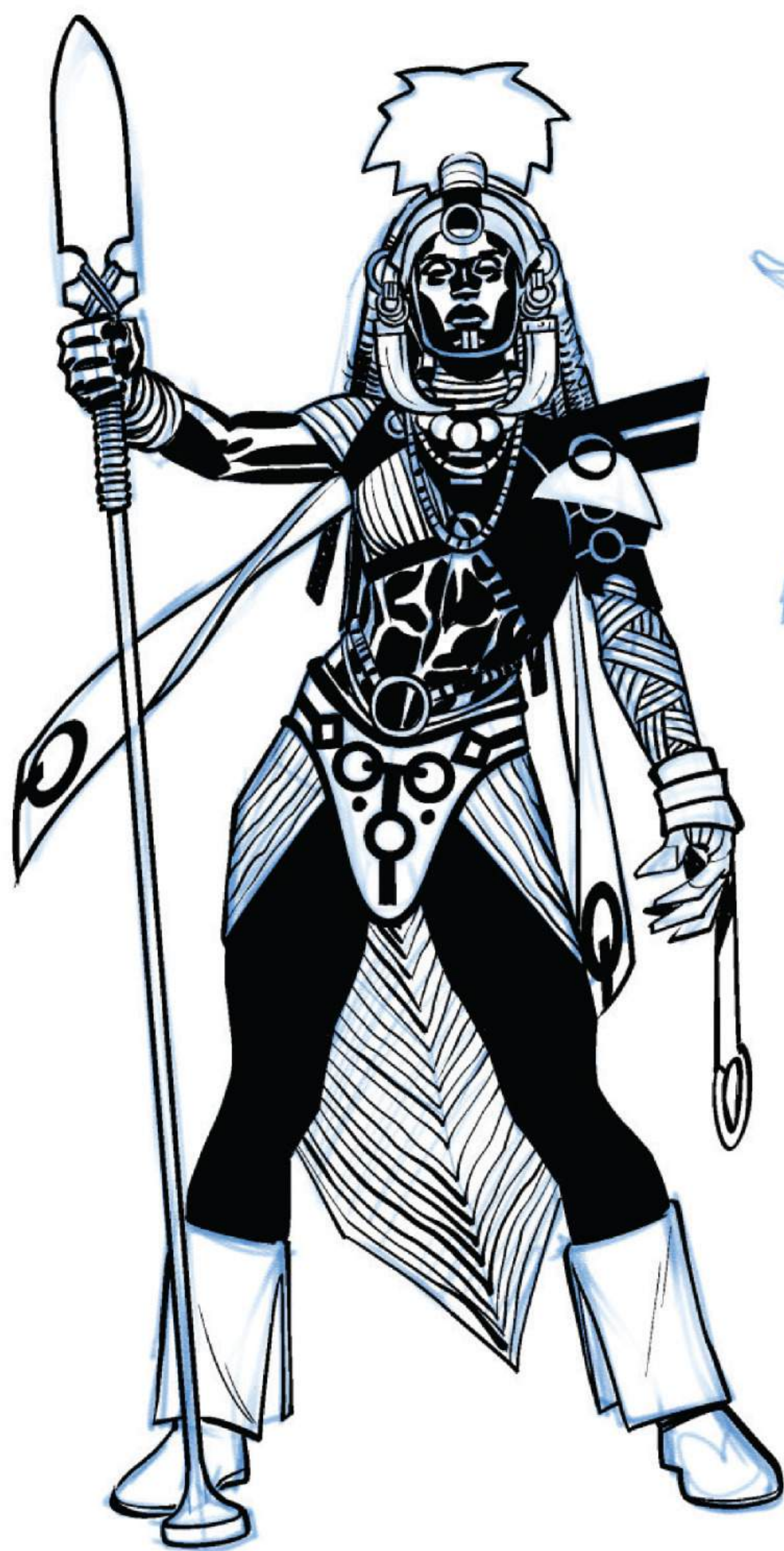
Yes.





SKETCHES

BY BRIAN STELFREEZE



SHURI



SKETCHES

BY BRIAN STELFREEZE

TA-NEHISI mentioned the idea of chainmail and I started riffing off of that. It led me to a cycle-style leather jacket reinforced with a single spun vibranium thread. The hood configuration gives them head protection when full-on battle time.

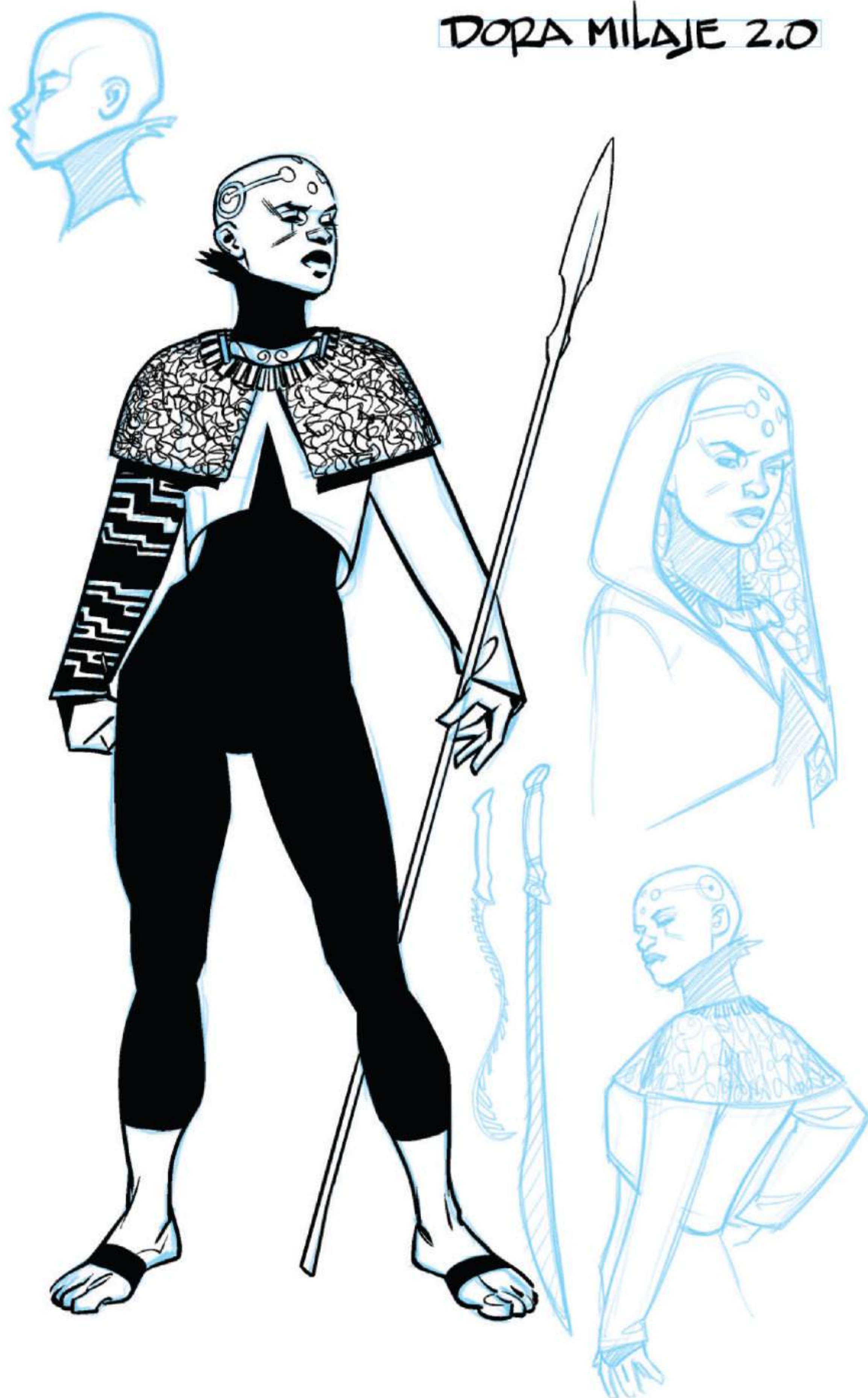
The necklace/sword is serpentine links that snap into place with a flick of the wrist, or it can work as a slashing whip. The shield also converts to a ridged body when it slides into its offensive position.

-STELFREEZE



DORA MILAJE
WEAPONS HOT

DORA MILAJE 2.0



BLACK PANTHER

WORLD OF WAKANDA

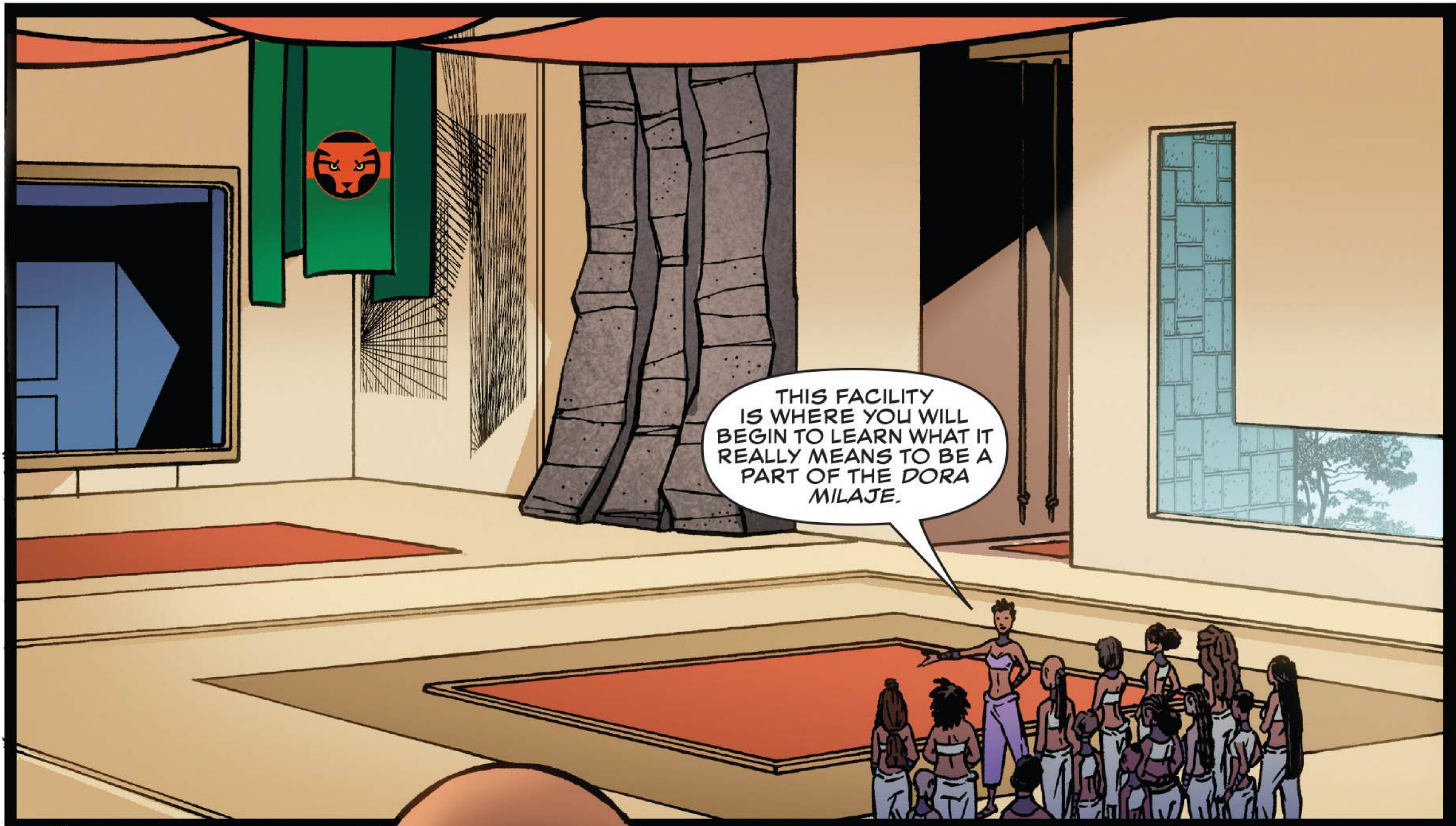


BONUS PREVIEW:
BLACK PANTHER: WORLD OF WAKANDA #1!
DAWN OF THE MIDNIGHT ANGELS - PART 1

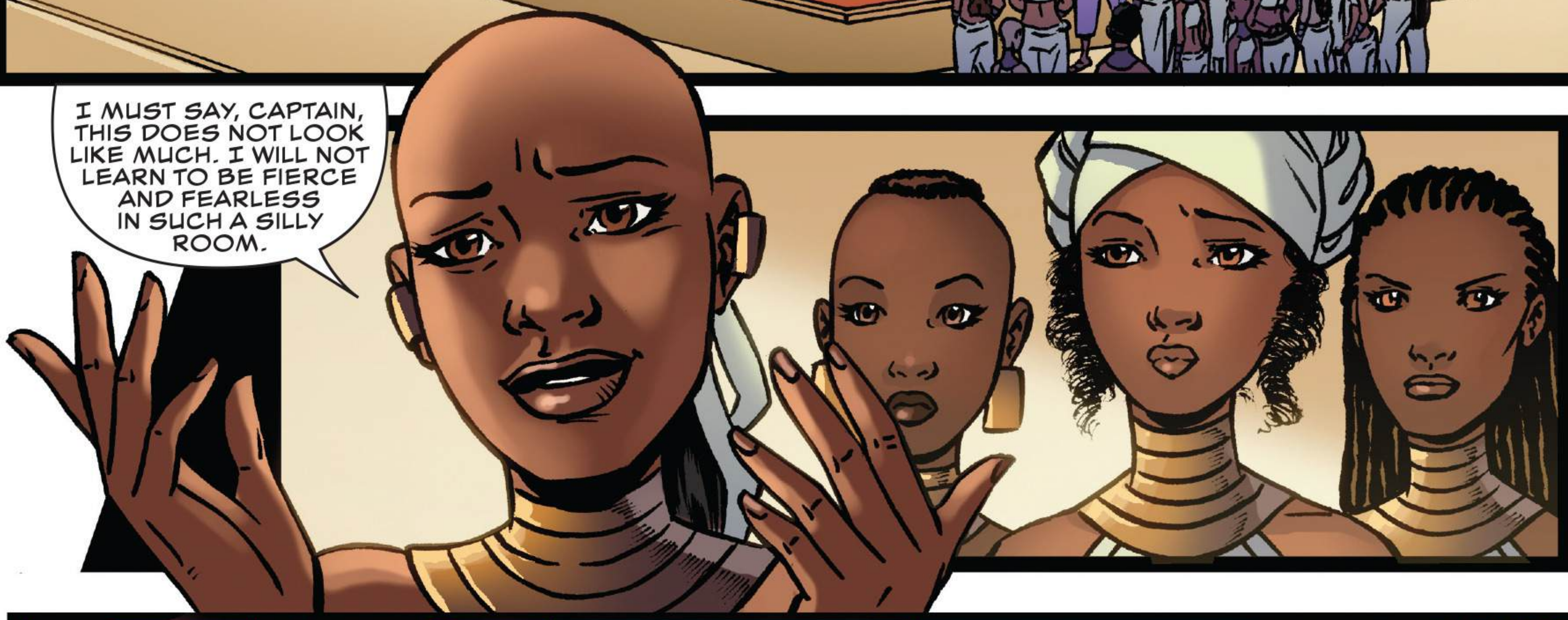
WRITER: ROXANE GAY ● CONSULTANT: TA-NEHISI COATES ● ARTIST: ALITHA E. MARTINEZ
COLOR ARTIST: RACHELLE ROSENBERG ● LETTERER: VC'S JOE SABINO
COVER BY AFUA RICHARDSON



SISTERS, YOU ARE HERE TO LEARN TO SERVE, TO FIGHT, TO BE FIERCE, TO BE FEARLESS. FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, EXCELLENCE IS YOUR ONLY OPTION. LET US BEGIN. GO CHANGE AND THEN COME JOIN ME.



THIS FACILITY IS WHERE YOU WILL BEGIN TO LEARN WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO BE A PART OF THE DORA MILAJE.



I MUST SAY, CAPTAIN, THIS DOES NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH. I WILL NOT LEARN TO BE FIERCE AND FEARLESS IN SUCH A SILLY ROOM.



"AYO," IS IT? AYO, YOU ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE GIRL, AND YOU PRESUME TO THINK THIS SPACE, WHICH HAS FORGED HUNDREDS OF DORA MILAJE, DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH?





YOU SHOULD KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT MY FATHER RAISED ME THE WAY HE RAISED MY BROTHERS--TO FIGHT WITHOUT MERCY.



SO NO MATTER HOW THIS ENDS, I WILL HURT YOU.



HA!



I HOPE YOUR BROTHERS ARE NOT AS HOPELESS AS YOU.



TO BE CONTINUED IN
BLACK PANTHER

WORLD  WAKANDA



"Another outstanding piece of an impressive and game-changing story by Ta-Nehisi Coates." – HeroesDirect.com

COUNTING DOWN THE FINAL DAYS OF THE **KINGDOM OF WAKANDA!**

AS ZENZI AND THE PEOPLE poison Wakanda's citizens against the Black Panther, a cabal of nation-breakers is assembled. And Ayo and Aneka, the Midnight Angels, are courted by Tetu to help raise their land to new glory! His allies dwindling, T'Challa must rely on his elite secret police, the Hatut Zeraze, and fellow Avenger Eden Fesi, a.k.a. Manifold! And with T'Challa's back truly against the wall, he even calls in some old friends to lend a hand: Luke Cage, Misty Knight and Storm! But Wakanda may be too far gone for this all-new, all-different Crew – and there's one job the Panther must handle alone. Only he can voyage into the Djalía! Getting there is hard enough, but can even he find his sister Shuri inside Wakanda's collective memory?

COLLECTING **BLACK PANTHER (2016) #5-8** – BY TA-NEHISI COATES,
CHRIS SPROUSE, KARL STORY AND LAURA MARTIN – PLUS THE CLASSIC
JUNGLE ACTION #6-7.

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